

Costa del Scotland

How stone age man basked in the blazing northern sun, **Science briefing, p10**



10 pages of sport

Heroes and villains in England's Test collapse, **Section 2**



Junk publishing

A way of stopping the books rotting before the authors die, **page 11**

20p

THE TIMES

No. 65,153 MONDAY JANUARY 2 1995

Prison staff try to revive Frederick West after he is found hanged

Cromwell St murders case man is dead

BY BILL FROST



FREDERICK WEST, the Gloucester builder accused of of the murder of 12 women, including two of his own daughters and his first wife, was found hanged in a prison cell yesterday afternoon.

Officers at Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, discovered West's body at 12.55pm and attempted to revive him without success. He was pronounced dead half an hour later.

West, of 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester — dubbed the House of Horror — had been in custody since April 7 last year. His trial was not due to begin until the spring of 1996.

A Prison Service spokesman said: "The police have been called in and we are inquiring into the circumstances. He was found by staff who attempted to resuscitate him and a doctor certified death at 1.22pm."

A spokesman for West Midlands police said that there were no suspicious circumstances involved in the death. He confirmed that the inquiry would consider security and prisoner surveillance procedures at the jail.

Inspector David Morgan of Gloucestershire police said: "We can confirm that the deputy governor of Winson Green advised us at about 1.40 this afternoon that Frederick West was found dead in his cell. The circumstances surrounding the death will be investigated by the coroner for the district and West Midlands police."

West, 53, and his wife Rosemary, 41, were jointly charged with the murders of nine women who disappeared between 1973 and 1987.

West was also accused of killing his first wife Catherine, who was found buried in Letterbox Field, Kempley, near Gloucester; their 8-year-old daughter Charmaine, whose remains were found at his former home at 25 Midland Road, Gloucester; and Scottish childminder Anne McFall, whose body was also unearthed on farmland near Kempley.

Relatives of his alleged victims last night greeted news of the apparent suicide with jubilation. Joan Owen, 52, the mother of 17-year-old Alison Chambers, whose body was among those found at Cromwell Street, said that West's apparent suicide was "the only good thing he ever did".

"This is the best news I've heard for a long time," she said. "After all the evil things he did, this must be the only good thing he ever did. Anyone who can do what he did and then walk around and act as if nothing happened is truly evil."

Chris Davis, who is married to West's daughter Anna-Marie, described the news as "a great result". Mr Davis added: "He will rot in hell for what he did. He deserves everything that is waiting for him."

Tony Miles, West's solicitor, said: "We have heard this afternoon that Mr West has died whilst in custody. The full circumstances are not yet known. We can make no further comment."

Committal proceedings against West and his wife were due to begin at Dursley, Gloucestershire, on February 6. The couple last appeared in court together on December 13, when the committal date was fixed. Mrs West was told of her husband's death yesterday afternoon.

Her solicitor Leo Goatley, who is based in Gloucester, went to visit her in the women's wing at Pucklechurch prison, near Bristol. He said he could not comment on how West's death might affect her case.

George Howarth, Labour's spokesman on prisons, said last night that West's death pointed up a "sad lack" of supervision by prison staff. "There is a real security problem and the Home Secretary seems complacent about it. The point I am making is that this is part of a general pattern of a lack of security in the service," he added.

A former inmate of Winson Green prison said that West was watched around the clock by warders and his cell was regularly searched.

Stephen Palmer, 25, an engineer from Kings Heath, Birmingham, who served six months for burglary and was released just before Christmas, said: "I was really, really surprised when I heard that he had killed himself. He was watched day and night and everywhere he went he was accompanied by two prison guards and he was never left alone.

"At lights out his cell was carefully checked and sometimes it was turned over with a fine tooth comb. The rest of his room was virtually bare."

West's arrest triggered one of the biggest police investigations of modern times. He was detained on February 25 last year with his wife by detectives investigating the disappearance of their 16-year-old daughter Heather. She was last seen alive in 1987.

On February 26 last year police using mini-diggers found Heather's remains buried under a patio in the small back garden of West's home. Within days, two more bodies had been found.

One of the bodies was identified as Shirley Ann Robinson, a former lodger at Cromwell Street. She was 18 and pregnant at the time of her disappearance. The third victim was not immediately identified and more grim discoveries were to follow.

On March 5, police found two more sets of human remains in the cellar area at Cromwell Street. A day later a sixth body was found, also in the cellar, and a seventh on March 7. At the same time they also announced plans to begin digging at other locations connected with West.

Nine bodies were eventually unearthed at Cromwell Street. Another was found at West's old home in Midland Road, Gloucester. Two more sets of human remains were discovered in fields at Kempley. The huge investigation put an immense strain on the resources of the Gloucestershire police. West's death came only days after the Home Office rejected a plea by the force for a £651,000 emergency grant towards the huge cost of the inquiry. Police recruitment in the county has been frozen as the force struggles to meet the bill, which has already topped £1.3 million.

House of horror, page 3



Frederick West joking with policemen after one of his appearances in court

Girl's death may lead to reform of 'deplorable' ambulances

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE death of a little girl who had to wait nearly an hour for an ambulance is likely to bring a big shake-up of London's emergency services.

Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, intends to use an official report on the death of Nasima Begum, 11, as a catalyst for sweeping reforms of the service aimed at curbing union power and overhauling a moribund system of management.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mrs Bottomley said she regarded Nasima's death from kidney failure last June despite repeated emergency calls from her family as the latest in a series of "deplorable" events surrounding the London Ambulance Service (LAS). She made it clear that she would take urgent action to overhaul the service once she received a report from a panel led by William Wells, chairman of South Thames Regional Health Authority.

The report will cover working practices, including shift times and changeovers, holidays and absenteeism.

Mrs Bottomley said an internal inquiry had shown already that, on the night in question, only 12 vehicles out of a theoretical maximum of 18 were on duty, and three went before the end of the shift.

She said: "I think the time now is right for management and the unions in the LAS to realise they have to change. The public must have a decent service. The absentee rates are unacceptable. The arrangements for rostering are archaic and there are no arrangements for repairing vehicles overnight . . .

"I am clear that the standard of service taken for granted in other parts of the country, such as Birmingham and Northumbria, should be available for Londoners . . . it has been a deplorable series of events and, while there have been significant improvements, the service is still too accident-prone."

The Wells report, due by the middle of this month, is likely to place a question mark over the future of Martin Gorham, the LAS chief executive. Senior Health Department sources said the LAS was "one of the last bastions of the old trade-union dominated health service", and a big change in attitudes and practice was needed. According to the Patient's Charter, in built-up areas an ambulance should arrive at the scene of a casualty within 14 minutes in 95 per cent of cases. Nasima, from Aldgate, east London, had to wait 53 minutes. The LAS achieves the official standard in only 65 per cent of cases.



Nasima Begum: fatal wait for ambulance

John Boast, an LAS branch secretary of Unison, the health workers' union, said: "These people who make accusations against ambulance crews never have to face what we face. There are times when there just aren't enough vehicles for the amount of calls."

Family's anger, page 2
Leading article, page 13

Blair in school fees VAT row

Tony Blair yesterday told David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, that he would not be allowed to consider imposing VAT on private school fees. The decision followed a furious reaction to Mr Blunkett's suggestion that Labour was considering the tax which would add £1,700 to the average boarding school fee.

Labour leaders claimed that the issue has been confused with moves to withdraw charitable status from private schools.

Page 2

INDEX

Arts	28-29
Births, marriages, deaths	14
Chess	5, 32
Court and Social	14
Crossword	16
Leading articles	13
Letters	13
Obituaries	15
Weather	16
TV & Radio	30-31

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Russians claim to control Grozny after fierce battle

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

RUSSIANS and Chechens were still fighting in the burning ruins of Grozny last night after Moscow claimed its troops had surrounded the Presidential Palace in the Chechen capital and taken control of the city centre.

Some reports said President Dudayev, the Chechen leader, was still in a cellar beneath the palace, but Russia said he was in a bunker on the city outskirts.

Pavel Grachev, the Russian Defence Minister, said Russian forces had gained ground yesterday, but had yet to seize complete control of the city. A government press services communiqué quoted the Minister as saying: "The entire city centre and districts of the city and its outskirts are under complete control of Russian forces."

But Chechen forces are still fighting in several residential areas and General Grachev said it would take five or six days "to rid the city of bandits and complete the operation to seize their weapons."

The press service also claimed yesterday that General Dudayev was with his bodyguards in a bunker on the outskirts of Grozny where, it said, he was having trouble making radio contact with his forces. They were said to be running low on ammunition.

Russian parliamentary deputies who had been visiting Chechenia said after their escape to the neighbouring republic of Dagestan that, in the initial push, Russian tanks had reached the square in front of the Presidential Palace before being destroyed. The deputies said the bodies of the crew were still inside the tanks.

One witness said he had seen at least nine Russian tanks destroyed and three captured by the Chechens. The Russians were pouring in artillery, tank and rocket fire to clear a way for their troops.

The rebel government, yesterday made fresh appeals to Chechens to come to Grozny's defence, and hundreds appeared to be answering the call. Mauvladi Udugov, the Chechen Information Minister, said on television: "We appeal to all Chechens: take up your arms and come to Grozny. Today we should solve the problem of the Russian occupation once and for all".

The Chechen Government claims to have captured up to 100 Russian prisoners and to have destroyed 70 armoured vehicles since the assault on the city began on New Year's Eve just under three weeks after the Russians moved into the Caucausus region to end it secession. Most of the city centre has been destroyed in the fighting or in bombing raids, and is under a pall of smoke from burning houses and an oil refinery on the edge of the city.

In Moscow, Russians celebrated the New Year holiday as normal. The independent television channel NTV, which has increasingly criticised the Chechen operation and the Yeltsin administration, made no mention of the Russian offensive during its gala presentation on Saturday night. Journalists, liberal politicians, and entertainers mingled and delivered anodyne good wishes to their compatriots. As correspondents in Moscow turned to the BBC and other Western stations for the news, on NTV an army choir was belting out the Tom Jones hit, "Delilah".



Dudayev: "in a bunker on outskirts of city"

Shadow of apocalypse, page 7

Freeze adds to danger on snow-covered roads

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

SLEET, snow and hail hit much of the country yesterday, followed by a heavy overnight frost. The freezing temperatures, strong winds and scattered blizzards pose hazardous conditions for drivers across Britain at the start of the new year.

Forecasters say temperatures will remain below freezing across most of the country apart from sheltered areas of Devon and Cornwall today and there will be further snow showers. Motoring organisations warned drivers to take extra care.

"Motorists could not have faced a worse possible start to the new year," said the RAC. Among the worst hit roads were those in northern Scotland and south east England with traffic at a standstill on the M2, M20, and A249 in Kent for a time last night.

Motorists on the M25 and M11 in Essex faced settling snow, while in Wiltshire it brought traffic to a halt near the Membury services.

In Staffordshire the speed of vehicles on the M54 and M6 were reduced to 20mph and motorists on the M69 and M1 in Leicestershire also faced poor conditions.

The AA said about 100 cars were held up by snow on the A4086 near Llanberis, Gwynedd, north Wales, and in Cambridgeshire about 20 cars were involved in a pile-up on the A1 near Little Paxton.

The north of Scotland was the worst affected with heavy snow showers and high winds hitting Grampian and the northern coast.

The London Weather Centre said there would be another heavy frost tonight with icy patches on roads tomorrow. Milder weather would move in later from the west and rain is expected by Thursday.

The Midlands, Cambridgeshire and South East England will only reach 2°-3°C today, although winds of the sea in Cornwall and Devon may mean exposed regions have temperatures of 4°C.

The A66 trans-Pennine route was only passable yesterday with care following two inches of snow; the A6 near Penrith was closed to traffic, and the Kirkstone Pass in Cumbria was shut.

High tides caused flooding along the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts. In Whitby, North Yorkshire, mountainous waves crashed over sea defences and flooded homes, affecting hundreds of people in the town and surrounding villages. At Sandsend, waves were as high as 40 feet.

Red flood alerts were issued yesterday by the National Rivers Authority for Whitby and Immingham, Humberside. There was also flooding in East Anglia near Southwold and Oulton Broad.

Forecast, page 16

Please sponsor her today, tomorrow may be too late



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هكذا في الأصل

Blair tells Blunkett to backtrack over VAT on school fees

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JOHN O'LEARY

TONY Blair suffered a political embarrassment yesterday when he had to force David Blunkett, his education spokesman, to withdraw a pledge that Labour was considering imposing VAT on private school fees.

The Labour leadership moved quickly to overrule Mr Blunkett after he said that the introduction of VAT, which would add £1,700 to the average boarding school fee of £9,780, was a possibility. Mr Blair and Gordon Brown, Labour's Shadow Chancellor, insisted that Mr Blunkett reappear on radio to make clear that the party had already thrown out plans to add VAT for private schooling.

Mr Blunkett had originally said on BBC Radio: "I'm ruling nothing out at this stage because we want to look at the two issues of charitable status and VAT on private school fees together so that we can see what would be fairest."

Within hours, Mr Blunkett was back on air saying: "The Shadow Chancellor and the leader of the party think it is helpful to rule out that possibility in order to avoid confusion."



Blunkett: asked to clarify "confusion"

Labour figures made clear that the issue of VAT was for Mr Brown, not Mr Blunkett to comment on, and that the party's Treasury team decided in September not to pursue the VAT option.

It is the second time in a month that Mr Blair has been forced on to the defensive on education policy. Last month, Mr Blair was accused of hypocrisy when it was disclosed that he had applied to send his son to a grant-maintained school. Mr Blair and Mr Blunkett announced that they were drawing up plans to retain existing grant-maintained schools, despite the party's previous opposition to allowing schools to opt out of local authority control.

This time Tories were quick to point to a frontbench Labour split. Jeremy Hanley, the Tory party chairman, said: "Labour's policies are degenerating into farce. In the morning they say they want to put VAT on independent education. By lunchtime, after a fierce squabble within the Shadow Cabinet, they decide that they do not.

"Clearly Mr Blunkett is out of step with Mr Blair. Since Mr Blair is unwilling to back him, and has humiliated him so publicly, he should sack him."

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, attacked the idea as "taxation on choice" and accused Labour of the "politics of envy".

Senior Labour figures insisted there had been a misunderstanding rather than a rift on the front bench. They said that the VAT confusion was a side issue to Mr Blunkett's main point — that independent schools should not be given the privilege of charitable status, allowing them a tax break.

Mr Blunkett said that ordinary families were having to pay through their taxes for tax breaks for the rich who sent children to schools where fees could be as high as £10,000 a year.

"You can't convince a family that's facing a planned cut in government spending of almost £800 million across the country, with their class sizes rising, with their children's education being undermined, that they should contribute through their taxes because we treat Eton and Harrow as though they were equivalent to Oxfam," he said.

Labour is already committed to ending the assisted places scheme which funds children from less well off backgrounds to attend private schools. Although Labour dropped its threat to independent schools' charity status before the last election, it has always been committed to abolishing assisted places.

David Woodhead, the National Director of the Independent Schools Information Service, said: "Labour may not realise it, but most independent schools are not hugely endowed. This would be a serious threat to many of them." A survey by ISIS before the last election showed that the schools disburse £1.34 in scholarships and bursaries for every £1 they save through charitable status.

Roy Chapman, who handed over chairmanship of the Headmasters' Conference yesterday, said: "My own view is that the removal of charitable status would be seen as doctrinaire, old-fashioned socialist politics, which would be a big vote loser for Labour."



ANDRE CAMARA

Nasima's parents, Haji Rahman and Hazera Begum, with a photograph of their daughter. "We are still angry with Virginia Bottomley"

Reforms too late, say dead girl's family

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE family of a girl who died after an ambulance took almost an hour to reach her said yesterday that Virginia Bottomley's promised reforms had come too late. "Whatever intentions she has, it's not going to bring my sister back," Reba Begum said. "I think we had a sympathy letter from Virginia Bottomley and the ambulance people apologised over and over. It hasn't done any good."

The family has struggled to cope with the loss of Nasima, who was known as Beauty. "My mother is feeling terrible," Reba said. "There hasn't been a day that she doesn't cry for my sister." Nasima was the youngest of six. "Although we don't celebrate Christmas because of our religion, it has been a very difficult time for us because Nasima was with us this time last year and now she's not here," her sister Shabana, 15, said. "There are a lot of memories."

Nasima died at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, which is only four minutes by ambulance from her home. Her family dialled 999 four times after she collapsed on an evening in June. Her brother telephoned at 10.41pm and told the emergency operator that Nasima had nethritic syndrome and was delirious. The operator said: "We have not got an ambulance to send." An ambulance finally arrived at 11.34pm.

As she was taken away, Nasima told her mother: "Don't worry Mum, I'll be back." She was admitted to hospital at 11.38pm but died of kidney failure three hours later. Although nephritic syndrome is not normally fatal, Nasima suffered from a rare complication which needed treatment within 20 minutes.

Conservative politicians have highlighted the scandal to attack the power of the ambulance unions, while Labour has used Nasima's death to criticise the Government. Her parents have condemned MPs on both sides for making capital out of the loss of their daughter, and accused them of shedding crocodile tears. Haji Rahman, Nasima's father, says he is still angry with Mrs Bottomley over his daughter's death. "What they are doing now is a bit late," he said. "If they had done it before, my daughter would be alive."

Pride of place on the living room wall goes to a framed poem composed and handwritten by Nasima shortly before her death. She wrote: "Sometimes I wonder why I have to be in a world that I so much hate to see. At times I wonder why it is that the world I love is like this".

Ambulance shake-up, page 1
Leading article, page 13

Labour faces split over nuclear shift

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership faces an internal dispute after announcing yesterday that it is reconsidering its opposition to nuclear power.

At its autumn conference the party reaffirmed the policy to phase out nuclear power stations but Martin O'Neill, its energy spokesman, said yesterday that continued use of nuclear power was possible under a Labour government. He signalled a shift away from the manifesto commitment at the last election, when the party pledged not to invest in the nuclear power industry or to extend the lives of existing stations.

Explaining the shift, Mr O'Neill said: "The generating choices which we will have to address, perhaps in four or five years from now, are of a different order from the ones that we had when we fought the last election." He cited the smaller coal industry and the likely increases in gas prices but claimed that the party's environmental commitments had not diminished.

However, Eric Clarke, Labour MP for Midlothian and a former miners' union leader, gave warning that a change to the policy would be strongly fought by MPs. "I would be rather annoyed and so would be quite a few of us in Parliament. I don't think the policy should be changed, and there should be a moratorium on any nuclear power."

Labour came under attack from environmental groups yesterday for the move but Mr O'Neill insisted that there were no definite plans to retain power stations. "Down the line, nuclear is a possibility but it is a fairly remote one," he told BBC Radio 4's The World this Weekend.

The suggestion that the party is prepared to reconsider its position follows the appointment of Dr Jack Cunningham, one of the party's most ardent supporters of the industry, to the post of Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary. Dr Cunningham, whose Copeland constituency includes the Sellafield nuclear plant, has long argued for protection of the industry, on which up to 150,000 jobs are said to be dependent.

Town hall socialists told to change

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

TONY Blair has ordered a campaign to press left-wing councillors to adopt forward-thinking policies.

Mr Blair is determined that the party must be able to refute claims from Tories and Liberal Democrats that die-hard socialist councils represent "the true face of Labour". Despite Labour's opinion poll lead, senior figures fear that their opponents will try to tarnish the party's image by campaigning on the failings of some of its councils. In the run-up to May's local elections, Liberal Democrats will claim that at council level it can be seen that Labour works closely with unions, wastes public money and is opposed to open government.

While the Labour leadership is satisfied with the work of most councils it controls, it is aware that some councillors are resisting changes backed by party leaders. "There is very little gap between good Labour and Tory councils but there is a larger gap between bad councils of the two parties. We have got to make sure that some of the worst do not become a liability," one frontbencher said.

Labour strategists are particularly worried that some of the councils have failed to move swiftly enough in contracting out services, ensuring that decisions are made in public and making staff directly accountable to the public. Doug Henderson, Labour's spokesman for public service, will draw up plans to encourage new policies at local level. With nearly 11,000 council seats up for election in England alone — more than twice as many as last year — all three main parties see the May elections as an important test of public opinion.

Councils in Liverpool, London, Sheffield, Rochdale, Hull and Oldham will bear the brunt of the Liberal Democrat attack as Paddy Ashdown's party aims to undermine Labour's urban strongholds by emphasising Labour councils' extravagance. Liberal Democrats slightly increased their share of metropolitan district seats at Labour's expense last year. However, in the long term, Labour is more concerned about Tory party strategy in pointing to Labour's local government failures as evidence that Labour could not be trusted in power nationally.

Mr Blair wants to persuade the large public sector unions to adopt more progressive policies, including contracting out of services, by having locally-agreed arrangements with councils. However, senior Labour figures recognise that they risk alienating national union leaders if the plans are seen as undermining their influence.

"The large unions have moved forward in the manufacturing industries and there is no reason why they can't do the same in the public sector," said one Labour frontbencher.

Peter Riddell, page 12

Law turns blind eye to queue jumpers

BY JOHN YOUNG

LONDONERS wearily catching buses back to work tomorrow may be further dispirited by the knowledge that they are no longer legally protected from queue-jumpers jostling them into the gutter.

Or if they or fellow-citizens in any part of England search for bargains in street markets, they will similarly be unable to seek redress if the goods they have purchased turn out to have been stolen.

The arrival of the new year signalled the repeal of a 56-year-old bylaw that made it illegal to stand more than two abreast or to push to the front in London bus queues. From tonight a far more ancient bylaw, whereby market purchasers of stolen property are deemed to have acquired it in good faith, is extinguished.

Forming an orderly queue is assumed to be a British invention. But the only law enshrining it appears to have been enacted on behalf of London Passenger Transport in 1938 which stipulated that passengers must "wait in lines or queues in an orderly manner". The penalty was £2.

As for buying stolen goods in markets, protection for those who have purchased items "in good faith" at a "market overt" anywhere in England is thought to date back to the 12th century. The police say the change will make it much more difficult to dispose of stolen property in street markets.

Leading article, page 13

Tebbit refuses to snub Tory rebels

BY OUR POLITICAL STAFF

LORD Tebbit heightened Tory party tensions yesterday by giving the nine Conservative rebels a public gesture of support for their defiance of the party leadership.

The former party chairman fuelled the internal dispute by offering to visit the constituencies of the dissident MPs, despite attempts by the party hierarchy to cold-shoulder them. Lord Tebbit made the offer after reports that ministers had been told by Conservative Central Office not to attend speaking engagements that involve rebels.

The former Cabinet minister and arch Euro-sceptic denied that his action flew in the face of John Major's new year plea for unity in which the Prime Minister gave warning that warring factions over Europe could destroy the party from within. Lord Tebbit said: "I've said that if they find they have functions from which ministers have backed out, then I would fill in."

"What I'm interested in doing is bringing the party back together again. That will not be accomplished by boycotts of this kind." But he refuelled the arguments over the decision to withdraw the Tory whip from eight MPs who failed to support the government in a confidence vote. A ninth MP resigned the whip in sympathy. Lord Tebbit said: "The circumstance should not have arisen where they were expelled.

"My view is that there are at least nine Conservative MPs who are simply wildly out of sympathy with the views of the Conservatives in general on the European issue. Unfortunately most of them are members of the Cabinet."

Revellers and police clash

More than a hundred drunken revellers fought with police for 35 minutes after a brawl in a public house spilt into the streets of Caterham, Surrey, yesterday. Six officers were injured and six men were arrested. In Bournemouth police wearing riot gear dispersed troublemakers and seven were arrested.

Marriage rethink

The Archbishop of York raised the prospect yesterday of a special form of "marriage release" to allow people to remarry in church. Dr John Habgood urged bishops to look at new options.

Newlyweds safe

Nyky Napier-Reynolds, a newlywed woman from Co Durham who went missing in Mexico with her Australian husband, Simon, was reported by a fellow holidaymaker to be safe and well.

Lottery holds first £10m 'super draw'

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE National Lottery will have its first "super draw" next Saturday, with a guaranteed jackpot of £10 million, in a marketing move designed to boost flagging sales.

Camelot said it would top up this week's jackpot from a reserve fund it had been building up since the game was launched. "However much money we generate for prizes from ticket sales, we promise to make up the jackpot to £10 million," a spokeswoman said.

Under the terms of its seven-year licence, Camelot is allowed to put a small proportion of its ticket revenue in a reserve fund, to be used to contribute to the occasional "super draw". The fund stands at an estimated £3 million, about 1 per cent of sales in the first six weeks.

Camelot can chose to hold a "super draw" when it wants but must seek approval from the lottery regulator first. The spokeswoman said such draws would be an occasional feature of the game.

Although ticket sales continue to be ahead of the Government's and Camelot's initial expectations, with the weekly jackpot more than three times the £2 million forecast before the game was launched, sales dropped by around 3 per cent last week because many retailers were shut for the Christmas bank holidays. Another Bank Holiday this week is also expected to depress sales.

Fire leaves revellers feeling sheepish

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

A GROUP of partygoers dressed as sheep suffered burns when their fancy dress costumes caught fire at a New Year's Eve party. The flock of nine, who had been celebrating in black leotards covered in puffs of cotton wool, were accidentally set on fire when one of them brushed past a lighted cigarette.

The flames spread quickly through the party as each sheep rushed to help his fellow drinker. A man wearing a blue Bo-Peep dress tried to stamp out the fire as the victims rolled on the ground.

Thick glue on the outfits caused burns to the backs and faces of five men and two women, who needed hospital treatment. The women and a man were later transferred to a specialist burns unit at Frenchay Hospital, Bristol. The private party of 70 people, all in their early 20s, had been celebrating in the bar of the Woodbine Inn in Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

The publican, who asked not to be named, said: "By the time seven of them had caught fire they were walking infernos. One touched a cigarette, the others rushed to his help, and within a matter of seconds they were all alight.

"I thought at first the decorations were on fire, but when I saw someone in a sheep outfit rush past the bar with his costume burning, I knew it was more serious. I grabbed the fire extinguisher and used it on him. When you are in charge of a pub it is second nature to act quickly.

"Everyone tried to help, but some people suffered burns to their hands. The flames seemed to be spreading everywhere and the costumes were burning so quickly because the glue was highly flammable. It was lucky the bar was not as packed as it was last year or we could have had a real tragedy."

He added: "All the regulars were there and they acting very sensibly. No one panicked and everyone tried their best to help. Two of those in sheep outfits were unhurt." The rest of the party of 70 were in various fancy dress costumes.

A spokesman for Cirencester Hospital said the injuries were not life-threatening and all of the party, including those at Frenchay Hospital, were discharged yesterday afternoon.

A Gloucestershire ambulance service spokesman said: "We had a call to say some sheep were on fire. It was the most unusual emergency we have dealt with through the whole of 1994."

ZWIRN

Bond Street's Most Precious Fur Sale

ZWIRN's first Bond Street sale starts on Monday 2 January. There will be tremendous reductions on the world's finest furs.

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West's friends thought him easy-going but his arrest revealed a darker side

Jekyll and Hyde who ruled over eerily silent family

By Alexandra Frean

TO MOST of those who knew him, Frederick West was a jovial, easy-going and likeable family man. But his address at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester, became even more notorious than 10 Rillington Place, home of the mass murderer John Christie, after West was charged with the murder of 12 women and girls.

Only after his arrest was a darker side of West's personality revealed. His brother-in-law, Graham Letts, described a hard-hearted man who encouraged West's 16-year-old daughter Heather to have sexual intercourse to prove that she was not a lesbian and who subjected his children to a cruel and rigorous discipline.

Last night West's sister-in-law, Christine West, expressed the family's bewilderment at the two sides to his character: "Even now, at times we still can't believe all that has happened. The Fred we remember is a kind, gentle family man who was a workaholic. It's like Jekyl and Hyde."

West's youngest brother, Douglas, 47, said: "Fred was a complete softie. I could make him cry any time as we got older. He would not lift a finger to defend himself. They used to have fights at the local village hall but he would never fight back. He never used to knock us younger ones about."

Staff at a Wiltshire printing firm where West spent several days on building work remember him as a "totally ordinary guy". Cliff Dyer, 32, a salesman at the factory in Swindon, said: "You would have invited him into your home with open arms. He was so nice." But Stephen Palmer, 25, an engineer from Kings Heath, Birmingham, who served time with West in prison, said that he hardly ever showed emotion. Palmer, who served six months for burglary and was released shortly before Christmas, said: "The first time I plucked up courage to speak to him I

[redacted]

asked him how he was and he just looked up at me with an icy grin and said 'Go away', smiled like a maniac and then continued polishing his boots."

West had a record of criminal convictions. He made 11 court appearances, mainly for petty theft, receiving stolen goods and motoring offences, and in 1970 spent a short time in prison.

Born on September 29, 1941, he was the oldest of six children brought up in the picturesque rural backwater of Much Marcle, a village in Herefordshire. His father Walter was an illiterate farm worker. His mother Daisy was said to have doted upon West and to have held him up as a role model to his brothers and sisters.

The family first lived in isolated 100-year-old Bickerton Cottage, which had no running water and an outside toilet. Shortly after Frederick was born they moved a mile down the road into to a bigger house, Moor Court Cottage, where he spent most of his childhood.

A relative described the family life: "The children would all go out in the fields and help the farmers with the harvest. Sometimes they'd go out rabbiting to get an animal for the pot. The house was often full of children and they would bring back other youngsters from the village for tea."

Discipline from their mother and father in the bustling household was described as firm but fair. West did not do particularly well at school but was not a troublemaker. As a teenager he was fond of his 125cc motorcycle and regularly went to dances at the Memorial Hall. He sold the bike when he was 18, after breaking his leg in an accident. He met his first wife, Catherine "Rena" Costello, a Scottish waitress, when he was employed as a lorry driver. They married at Ledbury register office on November 17, 1962. Their first daughter, Anna-Marie, was born in March 1963 and their second daughter, Charmaine, the following year.

The young family moved around the country as West sought work, finding jobs as a lorry driver, general builder and ice-cream salesman. But the marriage ran into difficulties and the couple returned to Gloucestershire, where they moved into a caravan.

In 1970 West voluntarily placed the girls into local authority care — apparently to allow him time to sort out his marriage problems — but took them back after just a few weeks. When Catherine West disappeared shortly afterwards, West told friends she had gone back to Scotland.

West began an affair with Rosemary Letts, a 15-year-old schoolgirl, and on October 17, 1970, the couple's first daughter, Heather, was born at Gloucester City Maternity Hospital. Two years later they married at Gloucester register office. West described himself as a bachelor on the wedding certificate and no record of a divorce from his first wife could be traced at Somerset House. The couple lived at 25 Midland Road, Gloucester, but moved to 25 Crowwell Street in 1973. Rosemary had five more children, including Stephen and May. West is described as the father of all of them, but three are of mixed race.

Rosemary's brother Graham, 37, is one of the few family members who kept in close contact with the family. He has described the atmosphere of the family home as eerie. "The children were always immaculately turned out. Their manners were impeccable. But they were so subdued, it was unnatural. Whenever we walked into the house there was never any noise."

JULIAN HERBERT



Police bringing out human remains from the West home at 25 Cromwell Road

Trail of death started with pregnant friend

FREDERICK West's first alleged victim was a family friend, Anne McFall, 18. She was born in Glasgow in 1949, and worked for a while in a knitwear factory there.

By 1966 she had moved to the Gloucester area, living at caravan sites at Brockworth and Sandhurst. She was last seen in April 1967 when heavily pregnant. Her remains, the twelfth and last to be uncovered, were found in the Fingerpost field at Kempley, Gloucestershire, on June 7 last year. The police diggers took 56 days to find her.

West's first wife, Catherine Costello, is thought to have been his second victim. She was born in Coatbridge, Strathclyde, on April 14, 1944. Tall with dark hair, often dyed blond, she met West while working as a waitress in the New Inn, Ledbury, Hereford and Worcester.

They married at Ledbury register office on November 17, 1962, and their daughter Charmaine was born four months later in Coatbridge. West worked as a lorry driver and sometimes drove an ice-cream van. Their second daughter, Anne Marie, was born in Glasgow in 1964. Police uncovered Catherine's remains on April 10 last year in the neighbouring Letterbox field at Kempley. The search had taken 13 days.

West's third alleged victim, Charmaine, is believed to have died in 1972 when she was just eight. Her remains were uncovered when police broke through a concrete kitchen floor at the West's first Gloucester home at 25 Midland Road, on May 4 last year. The Midland Road house is only a few hundred yards from 25 Cromwell Street on the opposite side of a park. West was also accused of killing nine young women and girls whose remains were uncovered under floors and in the back garden at 25 Cromwell Street.

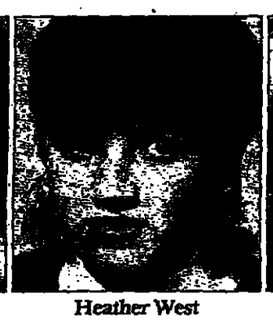
He was jointly charged with his wife Rosemary with these murders, between April 1973 and June 1987. Their alleged victims were:

[redacted]

Lynda Gough, 19, who was working at the Co-Op store in Gloucester when she disappeared; Carole Cooper, 15, who had been living at a children's home in Worcester and was last seen getting on to a bus in the city; Lucy Partington, 21, a student at Exeter University, who was killed after failing to catch a bus in Cheltenham; Therese Siegenthaler, 21, Swiss-born but living in Lewisham, south-east London, who died while travelling to Wales; Shirley Hubbard, 15, who had been working for a month at a store in Worcester and disappeared while travelling home to Droitwich, Hereford and Worcester; Juanita Mott, 18, of Gloucester; Shirley Robinson, 18, a lodger at No 25, who was heavily pregnant when she died; and Alison Chambers, 17, who was working in Gloucester with a firm of solicitors under the Youth Training Scheme and whose remains were the second set to be uncovered in the garden.

The West's daughter Heather, their first child born in 1970, was 16 when she was last seen in Gloucester. Her remains were the first to be found by police searching the garden.


Charmaine West


Heather West


Lynda Gough


Therese Siegenthaler


Carole Cooper


Lucy Partington


Juanita Mott


Alison Chambers


Catherine Costello


Shirley Hubbard


Anne McFall


Shirley Robinson

House of Horror became a sideshow

By Bill Frost

THE arrest of Frederick West triggered one of the most complex and macabre mass-murder inquiries of modern times. He was detained on February 25 last year by detectives investigating the disappearance of his daughter Heather, who was last seen alive aged 16 in 1987.

A day later, officers using mini-diggers found the teenager's remains under a patio in the small back garden of 25 Cromwell Street. Nine bodies were eventually discovered at the house. Another was found

THE INQUIRY

at West's former home in Midland Road, Gloucester, and two more were uncovered in fields at Kempley, on the county border.

Each day of digging brought larger crowds to Cromwell Street. Neighbours did a brisk trade selling sandwiches and cold drinks as sightseers, including regular coach parties of Japanese tourists, arrived at the so-called House of Horror in ever-greater numbers.

Such was the extent of the excavations carried out at West's home that the foundations of the building had to be shored up with concrete. The back garden was dug to a depth of 5ft before police were satisfied that there were no more bodies.

To the fury of Detective Superintendent John Bennett, the officer leading the inquiry, leaks to the tabloids were jeopardising his case against West, giving any defence counsel the perfect opportunity to claim that a fair trial was impossible. In addition, immense distress was being caused to the victims' families by reports that some of the young women had been mutilated before their deaths.

As the inquiry gathered momentum, the costs rose: £300,000 on police overtime; £48,000 on the hire of excavation equipment; £30,000 on demolition work; £28,000 on forensic science services and £6,000 on mobile telephones. The final bill is thought to be £1.3 million.

There was another price to be paid. Officers began to show the strain of their harrowing work and were offered stress counselling. "The discoveries we have made at Cromwell Street and elsewhere are like something from a horror film. No one involved in this investigation will ever be the same again," one officer said.

Gruesome toll of multiple murderers

THE 12 murder charges faced by Frederick West ensured that his name was linked with the ranks of British serial killers. Their names include:

John Thompson: 37 victims. A petty thief and drug addict. The motive for his petrol attack on The Spanish Club, in Soho, was rage at being overcharged for a rum and coke. Jailed for life in 1981.

Mary Ann Cotton: 20 or more victims. She married three times and in 20 years poisoned husbands, children, stepchildren, other relatives and friends with arsenic. Motive: insurance money, remarriage or spite. Hanged in 1873.

Dennis Nilsen: 16. He strangled young men "for company" at his home in Muswell Hill, north London, keeping their bodies under the floorboards. Jailed for life in 1983.

Michael Ryan: 16. The Hungerford gunman fired 119 shots in one hour with an M1 carbine, Kalashnikov rifle and Biretta pistol in the Berkshire town in 1987, and killed himself.

Bruce Lee: 15. The 20-year-old arsonist started a

[redacted]

series of blazes in Humberside. He was convicted of 26 murders, but the number was reduced to 15 on appeal. Detained for life in 1977.

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper: 13. With more victims than Jack the Ripper, who murdered five prostitutes in 1888, Sutcliffe preyed on prostitutes and young women in the Leeds area. He was sent to Broadmoor high-security mental hospital. Detained for life in 1981.

John Haigh, the acid-bath murderer: 9. He plunged the corpses of his victims — wealthy widows, whom he had conned of cash — into a 40-gallon drum of acid. Haigh boasted that there was no evidence, but a forensic expert found one plastic denture which survived the acid. Hanged in 1949.

John Christie: 8. He gassed, strangled and raped six women. At 10 Rillington Place, in west London, he is also believed to have killed the wife and child of his tenant, Timothy Evans. Hanged in 1953.

Kenneth Erskine, the Stockwell Strangler: 7. All Erskine's victims were frail pensioners. He was jailed for 40 years in 1988.

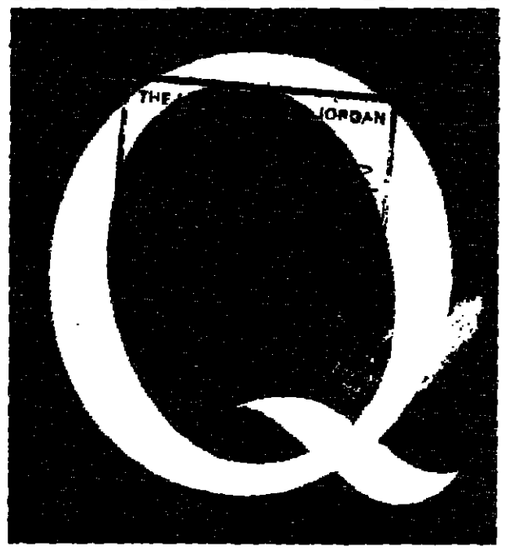
John Childs: 6. Victims were killed for cash, dismembered and burnt in the grate of Childs's flat in Poplar, east London. He carried out two of the contract killings dressed in black, complete with an undertaker's hat. Jailed for life in 1980.

Ian Brady: 5. Twenty years after he was jailed for the Moors murders of three children with Myra Hindley, his accomplice led police to the buried bodies of two other victims. Jailed for life in 1966 for three murders.

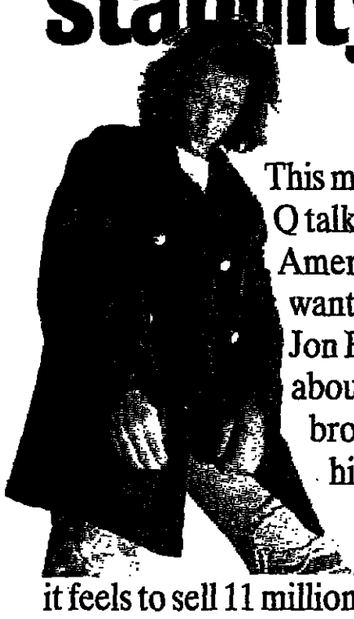
Colin Ireland: 5. Ireland, an unemployed drifter, wanted to make his mark in life. He targeted homosexuals in London who indulged in sado-masochistic practices, and wanted to be defined as a serial killer. Jailed for life in 1993.

Jeremy Bamber: 5. He murdered his adoptive parents, his sister and her twin six-year-old sons at their farm in Essex. He wanted to inherit the family's money. Jailed for life in 1986.

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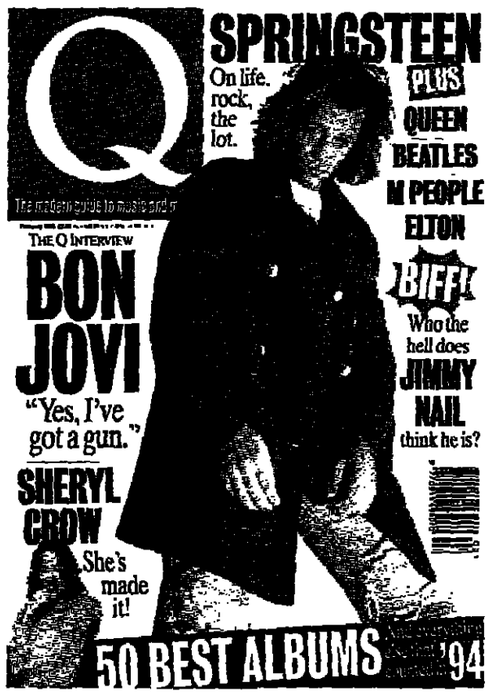
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Politicians on podiums are not the only people to wield power; thinkers too have changed the world



Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill meeting in Tehran in 1943: three "direct leaders" deciding the fate of nations

agenda

While the statesman's power is obvious, there is another type of leader who, though often working alone, may affect our lives as deeply, argues ***Howard Gardner***



Gandhi: complex message



Thatcher: proud of past



Einstein: worked alone



Eliot: profound influence

Loners who shape our destiny

FIFTY one years ago. Winston Churchill, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Joseph Stalin assembled in Tehran for their first meeting. Victory for the Allied powers was already within grasp. Accordingly, the three leaders planned strategy for the invasion of Normandy and discussed such questions as the way in which they should deal with the Nazi leadership and the fate of Poland.

The famous photograph of the three seated on a veranda embodies leadership-in-action: powerful persons making decisions that affect the lives of millions. At the time of the summit, the physicist Albert Einstein was at his desk at the Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton, pondering the nature of matter. Working alone, shunning publicity for the most part, Einstein was apparently far removed from the concerns and activities of political figures such as Churchill or FDR. Yet Einstein's insights into the relations between matter and energy were the intellectual capital with which the atom bomb was constructed.

It can be argued that it was the detonation of this weapon, at least as much as the conversations among titans, that determined the denouement of the Second World War and the shape of the world in the decades ahead.

The creator Einstein and the three summit leaders may seem far removed from one another. I argue, however, that insight can be gained into both creativity and leadership by examining such individuals together. I define leadership as the capacity of an individual, or group, to change the thoughts, feelings, and actions of a significant number of individuals. Figures such as Churchill or Thatcher are *direct leaders*; they lead by telling stories that affect other individuals and by embodying the stories in the ways that they conduct their own lives. Thus, Churchill and Thatcher both told stories about the need to preserve the past grandeur of Britain; and both indicated their reverence for Britain and exhibited personal courage in their daily lives.

Individuals such as Einstein or Picasso or Virginia Woolf are *indirect leaders*: they lead by creating products — works, theories — that affect other individuals involved in the same domains or disciplines. Thus the manner in which Einstein formulated questions affected physicists, just as Woolf's style of writing affected subsequent authors of fiction.

To explore the relations between indirect and direct leadership, I have been investigating prototypical *indirect* leaders such as Einstein and T.S. Eliot; exemplary *direct* leaders such as Churchill and Gandhi; and individuals who occupy a space between indirect and direct leadership such as J. Robert Oppenheimer, physicist turned director of the Manhattan Project, Margaret Mead, anthropologist turned public educator, and Jean Monnet, the founder of the European Community.

Indirect leaders tell a story that is relatively sophisticated. Indeed, sophisticated stories such as the theory of relativity or stream-of-consciousness writing may prevail over less sophisticated ones such as a belief in absolute time/space and straightforward narration.

Direct leaders need to speak across disciplines to a wider, more heterogeneous public. In most cases, they are reduced to telling stories that are uncomplicated. Only rarely does one encounter a story of some complexity that endures — in Gandhi's case, the demonstration that antagonists in a struggle can work together and can both be ennobled by the struggle.

My study, reported in *Creating Minds* (1993) and the forthcoming *Leading Minds*, reveals that indirect leaders tend to exhibit specific intellectual strengths that emerge relatively early in life. In contrast, direct leaders are rarely excellent students. Direct leaders are gifted in oral expression and in an understanding of other individuals. Both kinds of leaders need to spend at least ten years honing their expertise.

Indirect leaders are typically loners, though at the time of their greatest breakthrough they invariably need the support of at least one other individual. Direct leaders have the capacity — though not always the desire — to spend considerable time with other individuals. When still young, they surprise others by challenging individuals in authority, a marker that they already feel themselves the equal of dominant figures.

The two kinds of leaders fail in instructive ways. Indirect leaders do not have control over what happens to their ideas and sometimes they are misinterpreted. Many applications of relativity theory, for example, have nothing to do with Einstein's discoveries. Direct leaders are more likely to exert immediate influence, perhaps because they are in positions of power.

Yet great power often contains within it the seeds of destruction. Sometimes, as in the case of Baroness Thatcher, an individual ends up undermining her own authority. Sometimes, as with Churchill or de Gaulle, the sacrifices asked of followers are too great. And sometimes the changing nature of the times calls for a new kind of leader: thus Oppenheimer was not able to survive in an America that turned fiercely anti-Communist.

It has not been generally recognised that leadership is a cognitive phenomenon, one that occurs in the minds of leaders and followers. By identifying the stories that leaders tell, and the pre-existing stories with which these new stories must necesssarily compete, one can understand in finer detail what happens at times when leadership is effective — or when it is not.

One may ask what it takes to lead in a more sophisticated way. Only an individual who is a gifted educator and can adhere over time to the same basic themes has a chance to provide such leadership. In our time Monnet, who for 50 years sought to promote the idea of a single Europe against the older notion of rival nation states, stands as an example of a person who succeeded in promoting a more complex idea. And even 16 years after his death, his idea is far from being fully realised.

PROBING THE MIND

Howard Gardner is Professor of Education and Adjunct Professor of Psychology at Harvard University. The recipient of many honours, including a MacArthur Prize Fellowship, Professor Gardner is the author of 14 books and several hundred articles. He is best known for his theory of multiple intelligences, a critique of the idea that there is a single human intelligence that can be assessed by standard psychometric tests.

Leading Minds: An anatomy of leadership as seen through the lives of Margaret Mead, J. Robert Oppenheimer, Robert M. Hutchins, Alfred P. Sloan, George C. Marshall, Pope John XXIII, Eleanor Roosevelt, Martin Luther King Jr, Margaret Thatcher, Jean Monnet and Mahatma Gandhi, published in 1995 by Basic Books.

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Creativity and Leadership by Howard Gardner

READERS are invited to the first in a series of The Times/Demos Millennium lectures to be held during 1995.

The inaugural lecture, Creativity and Leadership, will be given by Howard Gardner, a Harvard professor, who first made his name with the theory of multiple intelligences which revolutionised ideas about human potential.

In his lecture, Professor Gardner will be looking at the creativity and effectiveness in leadership, examining the characteristics of past leaders, such as Margaret Thatcher and de Gaulle, and setting out the qualities which make leaders successful in the future. Chairing the event will be Lord Young, chairman of Cable and Wireless Plc.

The lecture will be held on Monday January 9, 1995, at 7.30pm, at Church House Conference Centre, Great Smith Street, Westminster, SW1.

Tickets, priced £8 (£5 for students), are available by completing the coupon below and sending it to Joanne Oliver, Town House Publicity, 45 Islington Park Street, London, N1 1QB.

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Two guests killed as smoke sweeps through ski hotel

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

TWO people died yesterday as smoke swept through a Scottish hotel full of Hogmanay visitors. Barefoot guests in their nightclothes ran for safety outdoors, where blizzards had pushed the wind chill factor down to -9C.

Fire broke out at 4.45am in a kitchen storeroom. Flames were restricted to the ground floor, but smoke quickly spread through the ten storeys of the Four Seasons Hotel in the ski resort of Aviemore.

Skiers from around the world were among 190 guests, including 32 children. Those on the upper floors were told to stay in their rooms and await rescue. As smoke crept under their doors, they had to open their windows to the sub-zero temperatures.

Patricia Shaw, 55, of Kippax, Leeds, was found in a state of distress by firemen in her fourth-floor bedroom. She suffered from emphysema, a lung condition. Mrs Shaw carried an oxygen tank with her and had difficulty breathing. She was rescued by ladder but died on her way to an ambulance. "She would have been overcome very quickly by the smallest amount of smoke," Sheila Bryant, a friend and neighbour, said yesterday.



Victim: Patricia Shaw

Mrs Shaw was on holiday with her husband Malcolm, 55. The couple ran their own window blinds business. The other victim was Graham Strachan, 64, of Strathblain, Stirlingshire, who was found collapsed on an escape stairway by firemen wearing breathing apparatus. He was pronounced dead by medical crews. His wife Catherine, 59, was taken to Raigmore Hospital, Inverness.

A fire brigade investigation will try to discover why so much smoke reached the escape route. "There were a lot of chairs and other items stored in the area where the fire broke out and the burning upholstery created a lot of smoke," John Cheadle, Highlands and Islands fire brigade divisional officer, said.

The hotel's manager, Houeman Meshkati, tried to tackle the fire and had to be dragged back from the flames. The Aviemore fire engine was unable to cope, so reinforcements had to drive through heavy snowstorms to reach the hotel.

When the fire broke out, the streets of central Aviemore were still busy and revellers, among them doctors and mountain rescuers, rushed to the hotel to help. Members of the public gave their warm clothing to the guests. Seven people were treated at the scene for the effects of smoke inhalation. The fire was under control by 6.28am.

Some of the rescued guests were taken to the bar of the Aviemore Mountain Resort opposite. Its chief executive, Don Lawson, said: "People opened their windows to get air as smoke came under their doors, but they couldn't breathe. It was so thick coming up the outside of the building. It was the most horrific thing.

"We gave them some food and a drop of whisky to calm themselves. I don't know where they will end up. Aviemore is packed to the brim at this time of year. There isn't a bed to be had as Scots people come here because of the liberal licensing laws."

☐ Five people were killed and more than 140 were injured last night when fire swept through the ballroom of the Switel Hotel in the Belgian city of Antwerp.

The fire started after candles were lit on a Christmas tree and caught a number of helium-filled balloons, causing a series of explosions.

ROSS PARRY



Four Seasons Hotel in Aviemore, where two died. Guests were told to stay in their rooms when fire was found

Mother sees daughter die in car explosion

A GIRL aged five was burnt to death in a crashed car on New Year's Eve while her mother and sister watched helplessly.

The mother and her eight-year-old daughter scrambled free after their car careered off the road and crashed into tree stumps at Markbeech, near Edenbridge, in Kent. But before they could rescue the other child the car burst into flames.

Police had not released the names of the family yesterday because relatives had not been contacted. The two survivors were treated for shock in hospital.

Peter Leppard, a farmer, raised the alarm on his mobile telephone when he saw smoke pouring from the car. However, fire and ambulance crews were unable to reach the victim.

Mr Leppard's wife, Elaine, said yesterday that her husband had seen the smoke from their house: "He found the car was well alight, and the mother and one of the children were standing beside it. The woman was in a terrible state. She just kept saying, 'I've tried and tried and I can't get her out.' "

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer North — Love all. — Rubber bridge



W	N	E	S
—	1♦ (1)	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	Pass	5♣
All pass			

Opening lead: ♠3

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

1. North decided that his spades were too weak to open, with the prospect that over a Two Heart response he would have to rebid them. That should have led him to the conclusion that it was better to pass.

Despite North's dubious opening, North-South reached a good contract. What should South do after ruffing the spade lead?

Answer: At the table the declarer took the ace of hearts and ruffed two hearts in dummy, each time returning to hand with a spade ruff. When he ruffed the fourth round of hearts, East discarded a diamond and the declarer was restricted to five club tricks in hand, ace and three heart ruffs and one diamond trick.

While the declarer could have succeeded by cashing two diamonds before setting out on his cross-ruff, that was not without dangers. Simplest, but not all that easy to see if you do not know the tactic, is to play a low heart at trick two. Now the declarer is in control — the defence cannot prevent him from making one heart ruff to go with the ace of hearts, four diamond tricks and five club tricks.

Macallan pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1, on January 25-27. For details and tickets contact the English Bridge Union, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP19 3BG (telephone: 0296 394414).

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Menchik Memorial

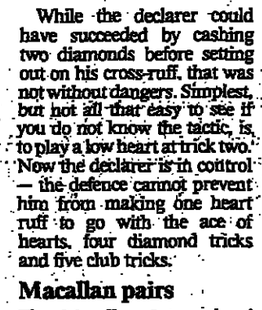
After four rounds of the Menchik Memorial tournament at Hastings, Thomas Luther, the German grandmaster, leads with 3.5 points, ahead of Alisa Maric of Belgrade and John Nunn of London on 2.5. In round four, Maric won a brilliant game against James Howell, the English international master, from Manchester.

White: Alisa Maric
Black: James Howell
Hastings, January 1995

Grunfeld Defence

1	Nf3	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	g3	Bg7
4	Bg2	0-0
5	d4	d5
6	cxd5	Nxd5
7	0-0	Nb6
8	Nc3	Nc6
9	e3	e5
10	d5	Na5
11	e4	c6
12	Bg5	f6
13	Be3	cxd5
14	Bxb6	Qxb6
15	Nxd5	Qd8
16	Rc1	Nc6
17	b4	f5
18	exf5	e4
19	f6	Bh6
20	Rxc6	exd3
21	Rd6	hg2
22	Re1	Qxd6
23	Ne7+	Qxe7
24	bxe7	Re8
25	g4	Bg7
26	Qd5+	Kh8
27	h3	a6
28	b5	Rb8
29	Qd8	Ra8
30	bxa6	b6
31	Qc6	Bxa6
32	Qxa8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Winning move, page 32

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1964 Cabinet Papers: UDI threat; economic crisis; disputes with Europe; the ANC treason trial

Ian Smith dismissed as 'simple bigot'

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN regarded Ian Smith as a "simple-minded and obstinate bigot" before the Rhodesian Prime Minister's declaration of independence in 1965, documents released at the Public Record Office show.

In a briefing paper prepared for ministers in advance of Mr Smith's London visit in September 1964, officials described him as a "simple minded, politically naive, and uncomprehending character". It added: "There is a mixture of schoolboy stubbornness, cunning and imperception about him." But while there was a "Boys' Own Paper ring about his patriotic utterances", ministers were warned that "his pedestrian and humourless manner often conceals a shrewder assessment than at first appears on the surface. He should not be under-rated."

RHODESIA

Mr Smith, who became Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia's white minority government in April, was in London for talks with Sir Alec Douglas-Home, then Prime Minister, over the future of the country, one of Britain's last African colonies. The Conservative Government was at pains to disabuse Mr Smith of any idea that Britain would acquiesce in an attempt by *Salisbury to break away from* the Commonwealth without first extending the black franchise.

The documents show that during a visit to London the previous year, Harold Macmillan, then Prime Minister, had told Mr Smith: "Of course, Rhodesia could declare herself independent, and she would be within her rights in doing this. If she did do this, however, she would sacrifice a great deal."

The Government feared that it had inadvertently given Mr Smith a green light for UDI, and was desperate to rectify this impression. "It is important to bring home to Mr Smith that any reference last October to our inability physically to prevent any attempt at a unilateral declaration [of independence] must not be taken as minimising the strong reaction there would be in this country and elsewhere, and the grave consequences that would follow."

Mr Smith, the briefing paper said, must be made aware that "we could not recognise a unilateral declaration of independence, which would have no legal or constitutional validity, nor could we recognise those who set themselves up as the government of Southern Rhodesia".

Britain, it added, "would not feel obliged not to interfere in Rhodesia's internal affairs, and would feel free to work to restore the constitutional position ... by any means it saw *fit". Rhodesia "would become* a target for subversion, trade boycotts, air transport bans and other hostile acts".

One Conservative backbench MP wrote to Sir Alec warning him that Mr Smith was "a stubborn old pig". Mr *Smith "was an extreme man of* regrettably narrow vision" who was likely to "take some very precipitate action on the speed of advance to independence", the MP said.

After Labour's election victory in October, Harold Wilson, the new Prime Minister, was so alarmed at Mr Smith's posturing that he issued a warning that the Smith regime would be committing treason if it went ahead with UDI. But the Cabinet papers show that Mr Wilson's belligerent talk was largely bluff, based on the belief that Mr Smith's nerve would crack.

Mr Wilson had hoped that his statement would stop Mr Smith in his tracks while encouraging non-violent international resistance, which Britain thought would be considerable among the more liberal whites. Mr Smith, however, declared UDI in November 1965, sparking a guerrilla war which ended with the birth of Zimbabwe in 1980.



Before meeting Ian Smith, Sir Alec Douglas-Home was briefed to indicate that Britain could not recognise UDI



Shawcross: raised fears

Secret cash used to block the Left

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

SECRET service funds were used to finance an industrial group dedicated to countering Communist influence in trade unions during the early 1960s.

Newly released papers show that Harold Macmillan authorised the release of thousands of pounds to back the group, IRIS (Industrial Research and Information Service), after an approach from Lord Shawcross, the former Labour MP who was then *a director of Shell Transport* and Trading.

Lord Shawcross had warned the Prime Minister in a November 1962 letter that some unions "are wholly dominated by communists" and that the influence had spread to the media. He asked for government help with the funding of IRIS, which

TRADE UNIONS

planted moles in trade unions believed to have been infiltrated by Communists, and for an approach to industrialists.

A note by Sir Timothy Bligh, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, records a conversation about IRIS with Sir Burke Trend, then a senior Treasury official, in which Sir Burke said that about £40,000 "could be managed". In a January 1963 memo, Henry Brooke, the Home Secretary, told Macmillan that, subject to assurances, resources would be made available. "There will exist not only an effective channel to facts that we know about certain individuals from secret sources, but *also a more powerful in*strument for mobilising efforts within the unions against the attempts by the Communist Party to get control of key positions."

Labour inherited chronic deficit

THE Labour Party was confronted by an overwhelming economic crisis on the day it took power (Michael Dynes *writes). Harold Wilson's new* Government had to take drastic action to correct Britain's chronic trade deficit or risk abandoning its cherished social programmes.

Sir William Armstrong, Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, told Mr Wilson that, without immediate action to reduce the balance of payments deficit, his Government would be unable to raise the money needed to honour its electoral commitments. In a briefing paper prepared for Mr Wilson, Sir William said: "We have a serious problem on our hands." Mr Wilson was told that the deficit was expected to be £800 million in 1964, with a further £450 million in 1965.

The documents show that Whitehall officials had ar*ranged an emergency meeting* between Mr Wilson, George Brown, Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, and James Callaghan, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to explain the scale of the economic crisis inherit-

THE ECONOMY

ed after 13 years of Tory rule. The meeting took place the following day, a Saturday, where Mr Wilson, Mr Brown and Mr Callaghan appear to have agreed that there would be no devaluation of sterling.

That decision proved to be one of the most controversial made by the new Government. Some of its supporters argued for immediate devaluation, which could be blamed on the mess left by the Tories. Others insisted that devaluation would forever have branded Labour as the party of the easy option. In the event, it was forced to devalue two years later.

When the new Cabinet gathered at Downing Street for the first time two days later, there was no mention of devaluation. Mr Wilson briefly congratulated his colleagues on their election victory and handed over to Mr Brown to explain the economic situation.

Mr Brown told the Cabinet that the economic situation was serious and that "it appeared to have been deteriorating for some time". Mr Callaghan said that any difficulties with the balance of payments could be dealt with in the short-term with support from the central banks. In the long-term, however, he warned: "We might have to invoke our right to draw on the International Monetary Fund."

Channel Tunnel's £143m price tag

THE Foreign Office wanted the Western European Union to assume responsibility for building the Channel Tunnel.

Officials were convinced the proposal would breathe life into the moribund WEU, which was founded in 1948 to foster European collective security, and convince President de Gaulle that Britain was as pro-European as France.

A Foreign Office memorandum, written in January 1964, said the scheme would "give new life to the WEU", while also showing that Britain was not prepared to "embark enthusiastically on exclusively Anglo-French projects at a time when General de Gaulle was generally disposed to kick us in the teeth".

The Foreign Office proposal came one year after de Gaulle *rejected Britain's application* for membership of the European Community by insisting that Britain neither thought nor acted like a continental nation and was therefore not yet qualified for membership.

EUROPE

The Foreign Office minute was written at the same time that the Economic Policy Committee was meeting to draft a memorandum "setting out the arguments for and against a decision in favour of British participation in a Channel Tunnel".

The memorandum described the tunnel as a large capital investment project, the cost of which was estimated at £143 million. Britain's share of the cost was estimated at £80 million, including expenditure on additional road and rail infrastructure.

The decision in principle to go ahead with the tunnel was announced by both governments in February 1964, and *an estimated completion date* of 1975 was given two years later. Thirty years on, and at a cost of about £9.8 billion more than forecast, the Channel Tunnel is now open to passengers.

Squabble with Bonn over troops

THE Government considered pulling some of its troops out of West Germany at the height of the Cold War in 1964 because the Government in Bonn refused to cover fully the cost of their deployment.

With the British defence budget fully stretched by military flashpoints from Cyprus to Malaysia, and by the order of a fifth Polaris submarine, the Treasury was negotiating hard to secure favourable terms. However, according to Cabinet minutes from May 7, 1964, the West German Government refused to accept British demands "to offset the cost of maintaining our forces in Germany".

Bonn had agreed to offset America's costs of stationing forces by buying US arms. The Cabinet considered withdrawing some of the 50,000 British troops but only as a last resort because of the "serious implications" for relations with Nato partners and the cost of relocation.

Diplomats feared Mandela outcry

BRITAIN expected its embassies throughout Africa to be attacked if Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader being tried for insurrection and sabotage, was sentenced to death by the South African courts.

A Foreign Office telegram sent to diplomats in May 1964 warned that African leaders were planning "concerted action and simultaneous demonstrations throughout the continent" if Mandela was executed. The telegram expressed fears that the demonstrations "might take the form of attacks on British and American embassies in African countries", and urged all its missions to be prepared.

British officials were particularly anxious as the trial of nine ANC leaders entered its closing stages. Speculation *was rife that they would be* given death sentences under the provisions of the South African Suppression of Communism Act, or life sentences, which under South African *law meant perpetual imprisonment.* When the life sentences were announced on June 11, appeals for leniency followed but they provoked a bitter reaction from the South African Government.

The Foreign Office was *torn between making repre*sentations for clemency and allowing the trial to take its course, thereby risking being accused of washing its hands of the affair.



Mandela before his trial

Maudling opposed new Polaris

THE decision in February 1964 to build a fifth Polaris nuclear submarine was taken in the face of opposition from Reginald Maudling, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

At the Cabinet meeting of February 25, Sir Alec Douglas-Home told his senior ministers: "If we deploy only four Polaris submarines in all, we should run the risk that, during certain periods, when only one submarine would be on patrol, an accident might put it out of action." If the credibility of the British deterrent was to be maintained "it might be wise to anticipate this risk by ordering a fifth submarine".

Peter Thorneycroft, the Defence Minister, said the cost of a fifth Polaris could be offset by cuts in the forward defence programme. Mr Maudling described the cost as particularly unwelcome as "it would coincide with other heavy demands on our resources at that juncture". His objections were overruled.

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Pope urges women to play the peacemaker

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

POPE John Paul said yesterday that women have a primary role in promoting peace and urged the world to end its conflicts in 1995, particularly in the Balkans and Chechenia.

In an appeal to those involved in wars he said: "Stop. Stop before the newborn infant. Stop before Jesus Christ ... I ask those responsible for such grave situations to reflect on their consequences. A more just world can never be built with weapons in your hands."

The Pope spoke to crowds in St Peter's Square yesterday after he celebrated mass in St Peter's Basilica on the Roman Catholic Church's World Day of Peace. He called on world leaders to take concrete steps towards peace, urging them to find inspiration in the fact that 1995 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the only time that nuclear weapons had been used in war.

"In remembering such events and observing regions of the world where fighting unfortunately continues, how can we not hope that the new year finally will bring yearned-for peace to every part of the Earth," he said. "This is our burning hope."

The theme of this year's World Day of Peace is "Women, teachers of peace". The Pope said that women had a full right to a place in all walks of public life but that their role in the family was paramount. In three speeches yesterday, he spoke of the values of maternity. He said *that women had a "natural* vocation to be teachers of peace in the family, in society and in every social context".



The Pope: spoke of "martyred Balkans"



Carey: optimistic about Ireland

They could make a "significant contribution" to peace on every level of society."

The Pope made a special appeal for peace in Chechenia, where an unspecified number of people have died in Russian air raids since December 11, when Moscow sent tanks to the mostly Muslim region. He also mentioned "the martyred Balkans", as well as Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Burundi. His planned trip to Sarajevo last September had to be cancelled because of fears for his safety. "In this first day of the year, we cannot forget our brothers who have been hit by enduring trials," he said.

In Britain the Archbishop of Canterbury spoke in his traditional New Year message of the new feeling of optimism in Northern Ireland and the importance of hope. Dr George Carey, speaking on television as the new year began, called on people to use *memories of the past to help* build the future.

He gave a warning that people could not dismiss or erase the past: "We need to remember where we come from, to honour our heroes and to learn from our mistakes," he said. "On both sides of the Irish Sea, Catholic and Protestant Christians long for peace and justice to prevail."

Moved by a recent visit to Ulster, he described the "tragic history of fighting and death". He said: "Yet despite so many tragedies there was a feeling of optimism in the air that there was a chance of a lasting settlement." He said that although for some there were happy memories to cherish in the past year, others might be glad that 1994 was over.

"The gift of memory is one of our distinctive features as human beings; the power to recall the past — and learn from it in building our future," he said. The Archbishop recalled a service during the summer's D-Day commemorations: "So many young men lost their lives to secure the freedom we now enjoy."

Fisherman braves icy sea in hunt for friend

COASTGUARDS praised the courage of a crewman on a fishing boat who dived into heavy seas on New Year's Eve to save a colleague who had been swept overboard.

The crewman jumped into the Atlantic west of Shetland carrying a lifebelt and was in the freezing water for five minutes before he was hauled back on board. He could find no trace of the missing man who was swept overboard about six miles north of Foula as the British crabbing boat *Amadeus 7th* battled through heavy snow showers, high seas and 70mph winds. The boat, based in Teignmouth, Devon, had a six-man Scottish and English crew.

After his rescue attempt the crewman began to show signs of hypothermia. A Shetland Coastguard spokesman said: "This man was five minutes in the sea and almost died trying to save his colleague. He is very brave. He deserves a medal."

The Coastguard helicopter had been scrambled from Sumburgh to search for the missing man along with the Aith lifeboat. As the aircraft flew in visibility of only a few metres it was diverted to pick up the survivor.

Because of the severe pitching and rolling of the *Amadeus*, the winchman was unable to land on the deck and the attempt was abandoned. By then the helicopter was flying almost to the limit in severe turbulence and icy conditions.

The boat sailed at full speed to Lerwick, where the crewman was transferred to the Gilbert Bain Hospital.

Single-sex shools delay stereotyping

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

SINGLE-SEX schools delay the onset of gender stereotyping, but teenagers conform in the end, according to new research on pupils' favourite subjects.

Psychologists at Leicester University surveyed more than a thousand pupils at comprehensive schools in Birmingham, Coventry and Leicester. Their findings, published in the journal *Educational Studies*, shed new light on the impact of single-sex schooling.

Previous research had highlighted the apparent effect of co-education in encouraging sexual stereotypes. The Leicester study raises the possibility that this is a passing phase.

The responses show significant shifts of opinion between the ages of 11 and 16, according to the type of school attended. While the younger children at mixed schools were more likely to conform to their stereotypes, attitudes had converged by the age of 15 or 16.

Boys' enthusiasm for music and art at 11 and 12 in single-sex schools was no longer evident four years later. Girls' traditional preference for arts subjects also emerged only in the teens where they were educated separately.

The biggest contrast came in mathematics. The subject was the most popular among 11 and 12-year-olds at girls-only school, but one of the least popular for girls in mixed schools. By the age of 16, girls gave mathematics a low rating at both types of school. Among boys, the trend was in the opposite direction. *Mathematics became a com*mon favourite only among the older age group.

The authors of the study, Ann Colley, Chris Comber and David Hargreaves, suggest that some of the shifts of opinion are due to changes in the nature of subjects at different stages of schooling. But they believe that teenagers' greater awareness of gender issues is equally significant.

Overall, physical education was the most popular subject at 11 and 12, especially among boys. For the teenagers, English was the favourite, overwhelmingly so for girls.

Education, page 27

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Shadow of apocalypse hangs over Chechen city amid bombardment from ground and air

Russian onslaught takes war to the heart of Grozny

FROM BILL GASPERINI IN GROZNY

WITH what may be the final Russian onslaught under way, there has been no let-up in the ferocity in the battle for Grozny.

The Russians pounded the city from the air and from the ground, using heavy artillery, tanks, Grad missiles and occasional aerial bombs. The Chechens have some heavy armour, but mostly used handheld weapons ranging from the ubiquitous Kalashnilov automatic rifle to grenade launchers and even hunting guns.

A huge battle raged on Saturday night right in the heart of the city, on Freedom Square, where the Chechen parliament and Presidential Palace are located. A Reuter television crew managed to film several burning Russian tanks that had been hit by Chechen anti-tank weapons. Many buildings in the city were also burning after being hit during the street fighting, as well as by shells and artillery fired from the outskirts.

Yesterday, from the western district of Voikavo, about two miles from the centre, it was possible to see flashes of orange light in the city, caused by missile or tank fire. It was impossible to tell from what direction the fire was coming, given that there was a huge pall of black haze hanging over the entire urban area. It was a mixture of fog, and the thick smoke from several oil fires raging out of control to the west of the city; an oil refinery and several storage tanks had been burning for several days after being hit by aerial bomb strikes.

The smoke and dull thud of explosions gave the whole scene an apocalyptic air. Yet through it all the Chechen fighters' morale has remained high. Fighters deploying back from the central battle zone were undaunted by the intensity of the conflict.

"We will never give in to them, never," said Ahmed ab-Maharja. "Allah is on our side." A comrade of his, wearing a torn hunting jacket and holding a grenade launcher, was equally firm. "Boris Yeltsin has sent us plenty of new year's presents, made in Russia," he said, referring to the heavy fire, as another explosion erupted from within the foggy haze in the distance. "But we are giving him presents too."

There was confusion over the focus of the battle. Small groups of fighters moved towards the city centre or from it with little apparent direction or control. The Chechens appeared to be moving towards wherever there was firing, being prepared to take on the

BATTLE FOR THE CAPITAL

Russians as and when they encountered them. In effect, the whole of Grozny had become a free-fire zone, with both sides shooting at each other through the haze.

The Chechens claimed to have destroyed or captured dozens of armoured vehicles, including tanks. There were also reports that the Russians were forced to pull back slightly after Saturday's fierce battle in the main square and another clash near the city's railway station.

The problem now is to confirm reports given by either side, as the extreme danger prevents journalists from getting close to the heart of the city. Several correspondents staying in a private house in Voikavo were forced to beat a hasty retreat when shells began landing in the neighbourhood, which had been calm and safe the day before. Across the mud-spattered street a group of Chechens were also departing.

Despite the Chechens' determination to fight on, ultimately the Russians' overwhelming firepower may force the fighters' retreat to be more than temporary and tactical. Having finally entered the city, the Russians will probably push on, even if it means destroying most of Grozny in the process. The Chechens may then slip away to the nearby mountains to the south, leading the conflict into a new, guerrilla-style phase.

The Russians have already considered that possibility. Up to 300 Russian paratroopers dropped into the mountains at the weekend, apparently to await any fighters who head there and to take on those already in the vicinity.

For weeks there have been reports of arms and provisions being stockpiled in secret locations.

☐ **Geneva:** The Red Cross has been authorised to deliver medical supplies, food and plastic sheeting to Grozny. A spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross said that two delegates were in Grozny to assess how convoys could enter without hindrance.

Two Red Cross aid convoys were currently waiting at Nazran in neighbouring Ingushetia and in Dagestan, said the spokesman, Paul Morard.

The Red Cross delegates had "seen for themselves the violence of the fighting in the centre of the city" and roads out of Grozny "are packed with Chechens fleeing the capital and blocked by military movements", he added.

"The sky over Grozny is black with smoke following the setting on fire of a nearby oil refinery, and the situation for the population is terrible."

The convoys are carrying 100,000 family food parcels, surgical equipment and blood supplies, and plastic sheeting to replace windows smashed by the fighting in the cold city, Mr Morard said.

At the response of Russian authorities, staff of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees began a mission earlier to evaluate the needs of Chechens displaced by the fighting. *(Reuter)*



A weary Chechen fighter walks past a blazing house in Grozny yesterday after a night of street battles against invading Russian troops

Terriers who bait the bear

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN GROZNY

IN THE space of only a few weeks, the Chechen irregulars, battling the might of the Kremlin's military, have transformed themselves from a ragtag "Dad's Army" into a highly effective fighting force, capable of sustaining a lengthy and bloody campaign against Russian troops.

Drawn from professionals, manual workers and students, the Chechens who enlisted to defend their rebel

THE REBELS

republic against Russian attack seemed only days ago a courageous but doomed defence force.

However, in interviews with dozens of fighters at frontline positions in and around Grozny over the past week, it emerged that the Chechens are well-organised and adequately armed to match the Russians in the street fighting now under way. Aslambeg Sataibeg, a former lieutenant in the Soviet army who now works as a merchant, is typical of the type of fighter making the capture of Grozny so costly to the Russians.

"[General Pavel] Grachev [the Russian Defence Minister] said at the beginning of this struggle that he could take Grozny in two hours with his airborne units, but three weeks later the Russians have still not conquered us," said Mr Satabeg, who is part of a big force defending the eastern approaches to the city.

While most Chechen fighters concede that they are no match for the Russians in open terrain, where air power and armour can dominate, they believe that inside the city they can inflict a terrible toll on Moscow's forces and mount devastating guerrilla attacks in the countryside.

"The Russians will have to fight us street by street and we know our way around them better than the enemy," said one commander, who was distributing wire-guided anti-tank rockets to his men at key positions inside Grozny.

Possibly the most important advantange the Chechens have is their high morale. There is not a Chechen fighter in Grozny who doubts the cause he is fighting for, unlike the Russians, among whom the military operation is highly unpopular. The Chechens, who have been fighting for independence from Russia for most of the past two centuries, are also buoyed by an Islamic resurgence, which has given a sense of divine right to their cause.

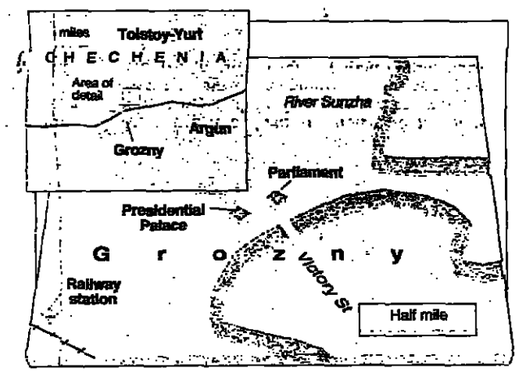
In more practical terms, the Chechens are well equipped for a prolonged guerrilla war. When Chechenia broke away from Russia in 1991 it seized a vast Soviet arsenal, mainly machineguns, rockets and mines.

There are also indications that the Chechens are receiving outside assistance. A well-placed official in Grozny said that an unnamed European country had sent weapons. One fighter admitted that he and scores of other Chechens had received five months' military training in Afghanistan in 1994 from Moscow's old enemies, the Mujahidin.

With these forces arraigned against it, the Kremlin would do well to remember the remark of the first Russian general who tried to subdue the Caucasus. Nearly 200 years ago, General Alexei Yermolov, the commander of the Caucasian corps, was asked what he would need to help secure victory in his ten-year campaign. "One Chechen," he replied.



President Yeltsin toasts the new year during an address on Russian television while tanks rolled into Grozny. Opponents of the action in Moscow called for peace



Yeltsin tying up a red-tape regime

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN faces a new year which promises continuing guerrilla warfare in Chechenia, a faltering fight against inflation, and a big realignment of the Russian political spectrum.

Fears are increasing that either the President or Russian democracy, or both, will not survive until 1996. By the end of this year, Mr Yeltsin will probably have had to decide whether to run in the presidential elections due in June 1996, to stand down in favour of someone else, or to postpone the vote. All the options look dangerous.

Boris Fyodorov, a liberal politician and former Yeltsin supporter, said: "The President's only chance to preserve his dignity until the next

KREMLIN OPTIONS

elections is to establish order in Chechenia, but he has shown inefficiency in doing so." Yegor Gaidar, the former Prime Minister, has also withdrawn his support. Of all the leading liberals, or "democrats", only Andrei Kozyrev, the foreign Minister, remains wholeheartedly committed to the President.

Instead, Mr Yeltsin is now being praised for his tough approach to Chechenia by assorted hardline nationalists including Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the self-styled Liberal Democrat, who apparently hopes that the Chechenia war will simultaneously strengthen Russian nationalism and weaken Mr Yeltsin.

The Chechenia crisis, however, has only formalised a split between Mr Yeltsin and the liberals, which has become increasingly obvious over the past year. The liberals did badly in the December 1993 parliamentary elections and have been virtually obliterated in regional ballots. It is questionable whether a serious political base or liberal ideology now exists in Russia.

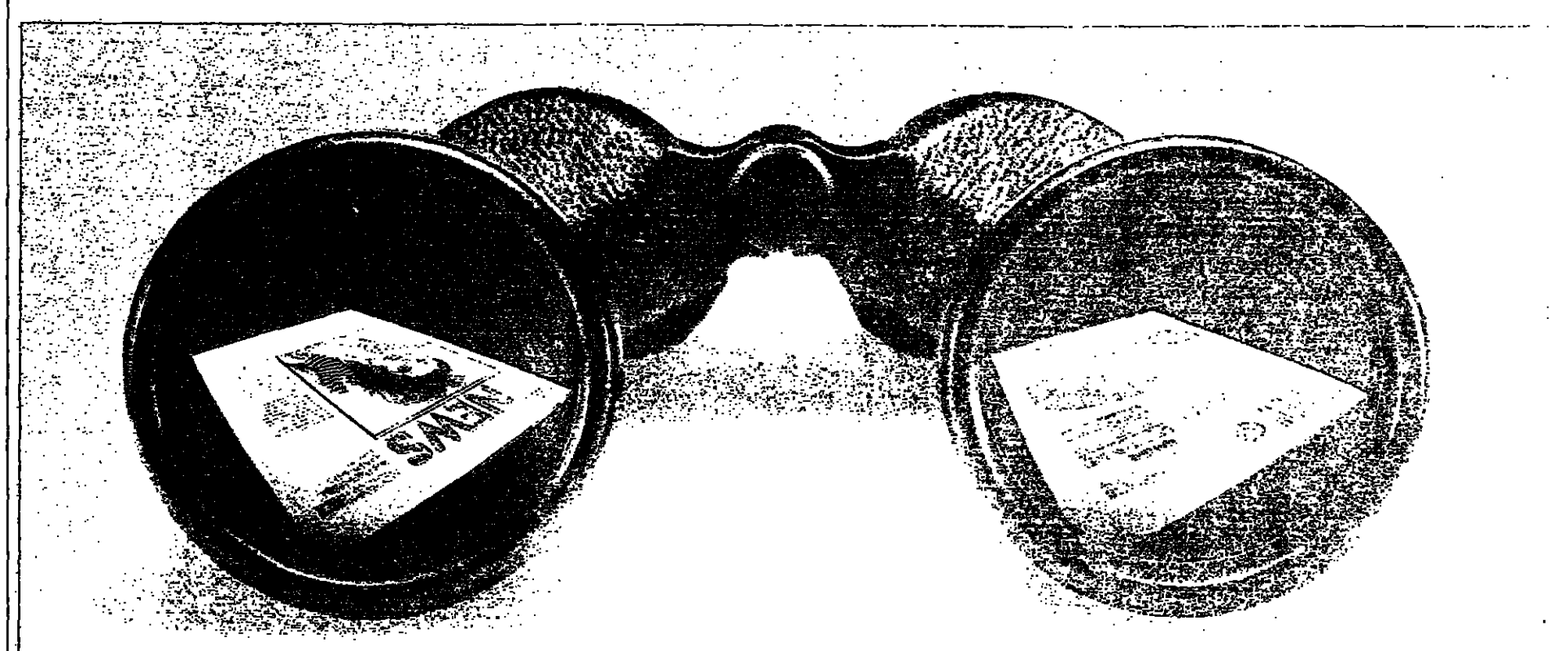
Mr Yeltsin has seemed to be moving towards the creation of a mildly authoritarian bureaucratic regime based on the amorphous "centre" of Russian politics, dominated by middle-ranking figures from the Soviet establishment.

In any case, as Chechenia has shown, the importance of the Council of Ministers has been drastically reduced in recent months. Senior ministers have admitted that they knew nothing at all of the planning of the Chechenia operation. The intervention has strengthened a widespread impression that Mr Yeltsin is relying on, or even controlled by, a very small group of personal advisers. Chief among these are General Aleksandr Korzhkov, his personal security chief, and Oleg Lobov, the National Security Council secretary.

The Yeltsin administration seems to be relying increasingly on the Ministries of Defence and the Interior, headed respectively by Generals Pavel Grachev and Viktor Yerin. The Chechenia operation, however, has disclosed serious weaknesses in both ministries.

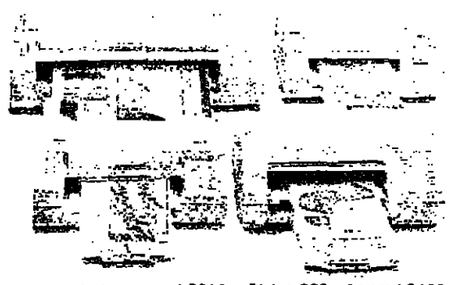
The moves against the rebel Chechens has also worsened still further the fundamental weakness crippling the Russian Government: the continuing decline of the formal economy and the inability to raise enough taxes from the new economy to pay for the state's immense tasks.

A report this week said that Russian industrial output last year shrank by 15 per cent, meaning that it is now at less than 45 per cent of its 1991 levels.



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Truce deal fails to win over Serbs on peace map

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO AND TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

ARMY generals representing the United Nations, the Sarajevo Government and Bosnian Serbs spent New Year's Day ironing out details for implementing the four-month agreement on cessation of hostilities, signed on Saturday, which many hope will bring the 33-month-old war to an end.

Following the Sarajevo tradition, troops on both sides of the confrontation line ushered in the new year with bursts of rifle and machinegun fire and a few shells.

The celebrations were more restrained than the previous two years when many residents were injured during a 45-minute fusillade. This year a French UN soldier was wounded in the groin by gunfire, but it was not immediately clear how the incident occurred.

Talks at Sarajevo airport yesterday, hosted by Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia, focused on establishing a "joint commission" between the two sides that would stabilise the ceasefire and work towards disengagement.

The difference between a ceasefire and the agreement on cessation of hostilities signed on Saturday is that the latter calls for frontline troops to pull back from some positions, the interposing of some UN peacekeepers and other measures designed to be at least a temporary suspension of the war.

Despite the success of the Bosnia-wide ceasefire thus far, many UN officials are saying that the agreement is only a pause in the war. An end to fighting would have to stem from a political settlement, which most agree remains unlikely. A July peace plan, put forward by the Contact Group of Britain, France, Germany, America and Russia, remains on the table. The Bosnian Government has agreed to it but the Serbs have repeatedly refused to sign it.

Much of the arduous negotiations of the past three weeks by UN representatives and Jimmy Carter, the former US President, have been snagged on the issue of the Contact Group's initiative, initially presented as a "take it or leave it" document.

Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy in Bosnia, said yesterday that the ceasefire would be followed soon by renewed political negotiations, the first since last summer.

"It is my expectation that very soon — before the end of the third week of January — negotiations aimed at political settlements and a peace treaty will commence under the auspices of the Contact Group," Mr Akashi said at the Bosnian capital's airport.

It was originally intended that the army commanders from both sides would attend the talks hosted by General Rose, which are expected to continue for several weeks. In the event, both top generals sent their deputies.

In the past, such seemingly minor snubs have signalled the insincerity of one or both parties in negotiations and agreements. That, coupled with the vagueness of the truce document negotiated by General Rose and signed on Saturday, casts a shadow over a move that many UN officials believe is the most promising accord of the war.



Akashi: new talks will begin later this month

However, General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military commander, welcomed the four-month truce: "The time has come for the guns to fall silent and for diplomacy to speak up." At the same time, a senior Bosnian Serb official said yesterday that his side still utterly rejected the premises of the Contact Group peace plan and said that his side "would not budge" from its positions.

Jovan Zametica, a key adviser to Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said that not only did the Bosnian Serbs still reject the plan's proposed division of the republic, giving 49 per cent to them and 51 per cent to the Muslims and Croats, but that they would never agree to a single Bosnian state either.

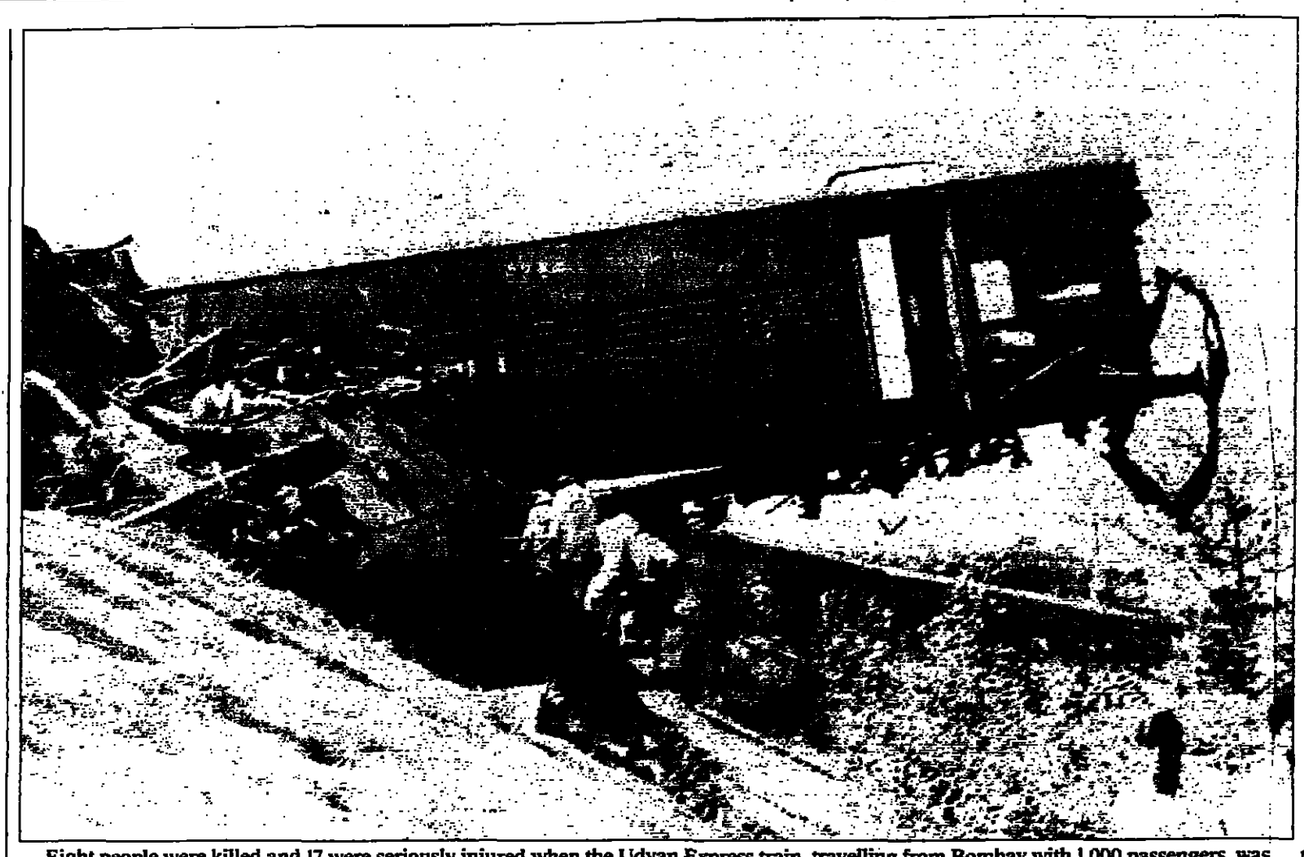
Mr Zametica said that under no circumstances would the Serbs accept such a division. "It is ludicrous to talk about percentages," he said. "As the Contact Group map is to be considerably modified, then the percentages will have to change too. If at the end of the day all are happy, then it is not important what the percentages are."

Mr Zametica also said that there would be no compromise on the question on the constitutional arrangements for Bosnia. The international community and the Bosnian Government insist that the republic's territorial integrity must be preserved. There could be no question of accepting this, he said.

Holding to a fundamental Bosnian Serb position, Mr Zametica said that any peace agreement had to recognise the sovereignty and independence of their self-proclaimed Republika Srpska.

"We will never recognise a single Bosnia," he said. "No constitutional trick will keep us in Bosnia and there will be no Muslim Bosnia lording it over us."

Diplomatic sources dismissed Mr Zametica's hardline position as a "an opening negotiating gambit". However, referring to the embargo imposed on Bosnia by President Milosevic of Serbia, Mr Zametica said ominously: "Milosevic's policy of making concessions and getting nothing in return has been recognised as wrong. Standing firm has proved to be the correct policy."



Eight people were killed and 17 were seriously injured when the Udyan Express train, travelling from Bombay with 1,000 passengers, was derailed at 60 mph on an embankment near the village of Yelahanka, 12 miles from its destination, the southern Indian city of Bangalore

President rejects Berlusconi poll plea as coalition talks continue

FROM SARAH CUNNINGHAM IN ROME

PRESIDENT SCALFARO, who is responsible for solving Italy's complex political crisis, has firmly opposed the early elections demanded by Silvio Berlusconi, the outgoing Prime Minister.

In a televised New Year's Eve address to the nation, he said it was his constitutional duty to find out whether a new coalition could be formed from the present parliament. That, he said, was the will of the majority of its members.

"We are at an important crossroads," he said, adding that he would be guided by two points of reference: "The constitution ... and the result of last March's elections."

Signor Berlusconi emerged victorious from those polls at the head of an alliance formed by his Forza Italia party, the federalist Northern League and the far-right National Alliance. However, three days before Christmas, Italy was plunged into crisis when he resigned after the League, always an awkward bedfellow, pulled out of the coalition Government.

President Scalfaro will hold a second round of talks with political leaders from tomorrow to try to end the turmoil that has seen the lira tumble to record lows against the mark.

Last week, Signor Berlusconi urged the President to call a general election on March 26, exactly a year after the vote that brought him to power. He argued that the electorate had been betrayed by the League's defection.

In his address, Signor Scalfaro denied Signor Berlusconi's claim that parliament had lost its legitimacy. Despite the obvious tension between the two men, the President used his address to speak directly to the man who is still acting Prime Minister: "I say to him with affection, with respect for his position ... that we are all perhaps called on to make some sacrifices."

Signor Berlusconi has so far made one apparent concession to the President. On Friday, he dropped his demand to lead a caretaker government in the run-up to a general election.

Signor Scalfaro said it would be preferable for Italy to vote after the completion of institutional and electoral reform. In the last general election, Italians voted under a mixed system, with 75 per cent of seats being decided by a first-past-the-post system, and the rest by proportional representation. The League, the Catholic Popular Party and the Democratic Party of the Left, all of which welcomed the President's message, maintain that there should be a broadly-based transitional government to refine the voting rules.

Umberto Bossi, the League leader, said yesterday: "Berlusconi is finished. There is now a parliamentary majority which will be able to achieve the necessary reforms one by one." The priority, Signor Bossi said, was new "anti-trust" rules for the media.

He and other opposition politicians claim that Signor Berlusconi's ownership of three national television channels, as well as controversial appointments that were made by his Government at RAI, the state broadcasting corporation, make a fair election campaign impossible.

PLO gives warning of renewed uprising

FROM BILL HUTMAN IN JERUSALEM

AN ADVISER to Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, gave a warning yesterday that any Israeli takeover of Arab landscould revive the intifada.

Ahmed Tibi spoke on the eve of an Israeli Cabinet meeting called to consider whether to halt construction of a Jewish settlement near the village of al-Khader in the occupied West Bank. Mr Arafat said last week that work on the settlement was a flagrant violation of the Israeli-PLO peace accord.

The Israeli Cabinet today will consider the advice of Michael Ben-Yair, the Attorney-General, that construction could be legally stopped at the site near the settlements of Efrat if financial compensation were offered to the settlers.

Two bulldozers worked without disturbance at the site yesterday and demonstrators were banned from the area by military order.

In a separate development, Lieutenant-General Amnon Lipkin-Shahak officialy took command of the Israel Defence Forces yesterday, vowing to keep the military strong. "Without the army there will be no progress towards peace," he said.



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TIM07

Euro commissioners face symbolic but light grilling

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

THE European Parliament will this week begin a process of US Senate-style confirmation hearings of 20 new European commissioners, in a display that is expected to be high on symbolism but low on drama and substance.

The new commissioners will be grilled on their plans for the next five years, although they need not expect personal questions of the kind that Clarence Thomas had to endure in the Senate on his way to the US Supreme Court. The MEPs will not even a take vote on the individual commissioners at the end.

One potential highlight, the prospect of Glenys Kinnock, MEP, interviewing her husband, commissioner-designate Neil Kinnock, will not take place. The stage managers would not allow it.

Jacques Santer's Commission will represent 15 members of the European Union, after the accession yesterday of Austria, Finland and Sweden. There is little doubt that the parliament will approve the commissioners in a single vote at a meeting in Strasbourg, set for January 18.

With Mr Santer and Edith Cresson from France, it will include two former Prime Ministers, Mr Kinnock, a former Leader of the Opposition, and Monika Wulf-Mathies from Germany, a former leader of the world's largest trade union. The Socialists will have a small majority.

The most powerful man will not be Mr Santer, but Jim Cloos, a man hardly known except among a small group of insiders in Luxembourg or Brussels. Mr Cloos will be Mr Santer's chef de cabinet, a post which combines the role of chief adviser with important administrative functions, such as the right to set the agenda of the weekly Commission meetings. Mr Cloos almost singlehandedly thwarted Sir Leon Brittan's attempt to be appointed commissioner responsible for Central and Eastern Europe. After a tied vote in the college of new commissioners, Mr Santer heeded his adviser.

The new Commission will need more than just tactical ingenuity to rekindle the political initiative, which its predecessor appeared to lose last year. On social policy, the perennial source of dispute with the British Government, the emphasis will shift from EU directives towards "big issue initiatives" on competitiveness and employment. The single market programme has also passed its high watermark. Instead, there will be a lot of talk about new technologies and small businesses.



Rabin: Cabinet will consider legal option

African despots vow to back democracy

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

LEADERS of three authoritarian African governments promised in their New Year's Day messages to hasten steps towards free elections and greater democracy.

President Moi of Kenya said he would invite foreign experts to help draw up proposals for a new constitution, and called for patience and national unity. President Mobuto of Zaire told politicians to prepare for imminent elections, and called for a transition to democracy within the next six months.

General Sani Abacha, Nigeria's military ruler, said that steps to end army rule would begin soon. All three governments came under criticism from human rights campaigners last year, and in each country opposition politicians have been arrested and harshly treated. Western governments gave a cautious welcome to yesterday's announcements.

President Moi, in his message, said he would invite constitutional experts from the West, including Britain, America, France and Germany, to help assess the views of Kenyans on a new constitution. He said all Kenyans must focus their efforts on realising national, rather than personal or party, interests.

In Nigeria, where Western and Commonwealth governments have repeatedly called for a return to civilian rule and the release of Chief Moshood Abiola, regarded as the winner of 1993's aborted elections, General Abacha announced that within the coming months "the tempo of activities leading to our disengagement will be intensified". The general appeared to hint that he would accept the recommendation by a government-organised constitutional conference to hand over office within a year.

In Zaire, where the President and the Government have been in conflict for much of the past year, Mr Mobutu said that future prosperity depended on ending the nation's political confusion.

Police shake-up plan

Johannesburg: A shake-up in the top echelons of South Africa's police is to be given priority by President Mandela (Ray Kennedy writes).

Sidney Mufamadi, Minister of Safety and Security, said at the weekend that national and regional commissioners more "representative" of the population are to be appointed and that some of the 47 white generals — there are only three blacks who have reached staff rank — will be deployed elsewhere and may be replaced by civilians.

The changes involve elevating the status of local station commanders to ensure a closer relationship with the communities in which they serve. A committee has also been set up to investigate racial discrimination in police promotion.

Discovery

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Gingrich primed for 100-day war on Capitol Hill

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Republican revolution begins this week with Capitol Hill's radical new leaders promising the biggest transformation of American life since Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

Newt Gingrich, the new Speaker, and his cohorts in the House of Representatives envisage nothing less than the ultimate overthrow of President Roosevelt's welfare state, and plan to launch that effort with a gambit stolen directly from FDR's handbook — a 100-day legislative blitz designed to flatten all opposition.

Initially, at least, the Democrats look unlikely to offer much serious resistance. Since his party's rout in the November elections President Clinton has been moving sharply rightwards in a desperate bid to avoid being left behind, and will be reluctant to use his veto.

The real questions are to what extent the Senate's older and more moderate Republicans will seek to temper the Gingrich programme and whether the American public will recoil when it understands what that programme entails. Robert Dole, the new Republican Senate leader, has already warned darkly that some of the more extreme Gingrichian proposals "may have to be modified, altered or maybe postponed".

For the moment, however, Mr Gingrich is the man to watch. He has curbed the power of committee chairmen, installed loyalists into all key posts, and begun dismantling a vast administrative staff built up during 40 years of unbroken Democratic rule. Even the House chaplain looks likely to go. Tomorrow the 230 House Republicans, not one of whom has ever served in a majority, will have a final dry run, and on Wednesday the 104th Congress will kick off with what they promise will be the longest and most productive opening day of any Congress.

By midnight or shortly thereafter the House is expected to have approved measures requiring a three-fifths majority to enact any income tax increases, making Congress subject to laws governing the rest of America, abolishing several House committees and sub-committees, cutting staffing levels, limiting how long the Speaker and committee chairmen may serve, opening almost all congressional proceedings to the public and initiating an independent audit of Congress to eliminate fraud, waste and abuse.

"At the end of the day the American people will say 'Lord have mercy, look what they've done already and it's only the first day,'" said Richard Armey, the House Republican leader.

Mr Gingrich is inviting the country's radio talk show hosts to cover an opening burst of action which should contrast starkly with the legislative "gridlock" of recent years. He will also announce the House's new Internet address.

The House will spend the next 99 days enacting "Contract with America", the Republican election platform which Mr Gingrich intends to have read out at the beginning of each day's session until each of its ten solemn pledges has been voted on.

Mr Gingrich predicts his "first smashing victory" will be on a constitutional amendment mandating a balanced federal budget. Less certain will be the outcome of House and Senate votes on limiting how long congressmen may serve. Since winning power, Republican enthusiasm for term limits has waned.

The "contract" also envisages radical curtailment of welfare benefits, still tougher crime prevention including a more enforceable death penalty, tax breaks for middle-class families and small businesses, a stronger military and reform of a legal system that is almost out of control.

Mr Clinton is wisely absenting himself from Washington for most of this week. He will be nursing his wounds in his native Arkansas, the one place where his support remains reasonably solid.

Republican House pledge

THE Republican "Contract with America" promises House votes within 100 days on:

- ☐ **The Fiscal Responsibility Act for balanced budgets.**
- ☐ **The Taking Back Our Streets Act against crime.**
- ☐ **The Personal Responsibility Act curtailing mothers' welfare.**
- ☐ **The Family Reinforcement Act for the nuclear family.**
- ☐ **The American Dream Restoration Act offering family tax breaks.**
- ☐ **The National Security Restoration Act reversing defence cuts.**
- ☐ **The Common Sense Legal Reform Act limiting punitive damages.**



Pro-choice supporters hold a candlelight vigil in Boston for the two dead and five injured in shootings at abortion clinics in Massachusetts. More than 2,000 people took part

Fears persist after clinic gun suspect is arrested

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

THE gunman believed to have killed two people and wounded five at two Massachusetts abortion clinics will be formally charged tomorrow after being arrested in Norfolk, Virginia, where he had opened fire on a third clinic.

The arrest of John Salvi, a 22-year-old loner, ended a manhunt that started after Friday's shootings, but it failed to quell public alarm over the violent tactics being embraced by anti-abortion fanatics. Five Americans have now died in four separate attacks on abortion clinics over the past 22 months.

Police had identified Mr Salvi from a gun retrieved after Friday's shootings, but when they swooped on the New Hampshire motel that was his last known address early on Saturday morning, he had already fled, they said.

Later in the day he allegedly arrived at Norfolk's Hillcrest clinic, a 12-hour drive to the south. He reportedly pulled a rifle from a bag and opened fire on the clinic, shattering its glass doors and terrifying about 50 people inside. He then allegedly drove away, but was stopped and arrested within minutes.

Mr Salvi, after being formally charged in Norfolk, will be returned to Massachusetts to face two murder and five attempted murder charges. He is a trainee hairdresser, and those who know him described him as an "oddball" and deeply religious. He had a picture of an aborted foetus on his vehicle.



Salvi: trainee hairdresser who is deeply religious

Law enforcement agencies promised increased protection for America's abortion clinics, but pro-choice activists want still more. The National Organisation for Women said: "We are demanding that the Justice Department step up its investigation."

Moderate leaders of the pro-life movement condemned the use of violence against abortion clinics, but the more extreme did not. "We're in a war," said Don Treshman, the national director of Rescue America. "The only thing is that until recently the casualties have only been on one side. There are 30 million dead babies and only five people on the other side, so it's really nothing to get all excited about."

☐ Capital crime: The murder rate in Washington fell 11 per cent last year but it still remains high at 414 killings for the year, according to the FBI. The US capital ranked third after New Orleans, and Richmond, Virginia. *(AFP)*

Liberal Canada lurches to the right

FROM RICHARD CLEROUX IN OTTAWA

CANADA, long considered one of the more liberal Western democracies, has been following America's rightward trend and is becoming a more conservative and less tolerant society.

The swing to the right is reflected at every level of Canadian society from the family, the neighbourhood, local school boards and all the way up to the House of Commons. In Montreal, two boards have allowed schools to ban *hijab*, the Muslim code of modesty and chastity that requires women, including schoolgirls, to cover their heads.

In several schools, teenage girls have been sent home for observing *hijab*. The decision has been denounced by civil libertarians, multicultural organisations and Muslim groups as racist and discriminatory and a violation of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Quebec nationalists see the *hijab* as divisive. Some believe that the controversy is linked to events in France where at least 17 Muslim schoolgirls have been expelled from state schools for wearing such headscarves.

The controversy has grown because the ban on *hijab* is worded to include all religious headgear, which is likely to provoke a confrontation with Jews and Sikhs if school officials interpret the ban to exclude both skull caps and turbans.

On the west coast, a group of parents in British Columbia who identify themselves as conservative Christians, have gained influence in deciding what programmes and school texts are taught in their publicly-funded Christian schools. They have banned all references to magic and witchcraft, Hallowe'en and native spirituality in school texts in the Surrey Catholic traditional school in a suburb of Vancouver. The teachers' associations and civil liberties groups have protested to no avail because the parents control the schools.

In a separate development, the federal Government announced earlier this month that it will not pay compensation to thousands of Chinese, Ukrainian, Jewish and Italian Canadians who suffered discrimination and injustices such as internment and confiscation of property during the First and Second World Wars. Canada levied a head tax on the Chinese between 1885 and 1923 requiring Chinese immigrants to pay as much as £320, then the equivalent of two years' wages. The Government raised millions of pounds at the expense of the Chinese immigrants.



Cardoso: architect of economic recovery

Brazil's new leader banking on boom

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

BRAZIL was yesterday poised to ride the crest of an economic boom as a new President took office and a regional Latin American customs union came into being.

The architect of Brazil's latest economic recovery, Fernando Cardoso, begins his administration amid widespread hopes for better days. The Social Democrat succeeds the colourful Itamar Franco, under whom he served as Finance Minister.

It was while in control of the economy that Senhor Cardoso crafted the real, the latest in a long line of Brazilian currencies. The real, tied to the dollar, is regarded as the weapon which overcame Brazil's tenacious inflation, running at over 40 per cent a month at the time of the currency's introduction. Inflation is now 2.5 per cent a month.

Senhor Cardoso's success in the presidential elections last October — when he easily defeated his closest rival, Luis Inacio "Lula" da Silva of the Workers' Party — was due in large measure to his economic reforms. He is expected to consolidate his anti-inflation strategy. Brazil's GDP is predicted, as a result, to grow by approximately 7 per cent in 1995. Western fund managers now rate Brazil as one of the most lucrative places in which to invest, and the prospect looms of the privatisation of the country's giant oil and telecommunications sectors.

A booming Brazil is expected to stimulate economic growth in the countries of the Mercosur, the customs union which came into force yesterday, and which also includes Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Clinton makes lukewarm visit to liberals' hothouse

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE highlight of this year's Renaissance Weekend was meant to be President Clinton joining other prestigious invitees in a symposium on the topic, "If I Were President: What I'd Say to the Nation . . . in Two Minutes."

For each of the past 11 years, Mr Clinton has spent several days at new year with family and friends at the high-powered policy retreat on the exclusive island resort of Hilton Head, off the coast of South Carolina. It was a time to relax, meet new people, and to do what Mr Clinton has always liked best — chew over policy ideas in a relaxed atmosphere.

But this year, Mr Clinton evidently felt uncomfortable cosying up to the liberal establishment quite so soon after the populist backlash against his party in the recent elections. Although his daughter, Chelsea, preceded him earlier in the week, Mr Clinton cut his own stay at the four-day retreat to just 24 hours and arrived too late on Saturday for the forum on the model two-minute presidential speech. The White House said he had been forced to cut short the visit by the incident of the captured American helicopter pilot in North Korea.

The Renaissance Weekend was started 13 years ago by a local businessman and his wife with the aim of bringing together modern "renaissance" men and women in an informal atmosphere. The qualifications are "innovative achievement on a national or regional level" and "a renaissance spirit with broad-ranging intellectual interests". The objective is "personal and national renewal."

THE TIMES
Win the trip of a lifetime to the biggest party in history

Today is day seven of *The Times* Millennium 2000, which offers readers the opportunity to spend New Year's Eve 1999 crossing the International Date Line to both Fiji and the Cook Islands to see in the new millennium twice. First prize is a 28 day world air cruise for two culminating in New Year 1999 in Fiji and the Cook Islands to join in the festivities. The trip takes in Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Tucson, Washington and Sydney. It includes helicopter sightseeing over the Fiji Islands and hot-air ballooning over the Arizona desert, and would cost £64,000 to book in 1999.

A second prize of a ten day stay for two in Fiji and the Cook Islands worth up to £7,000 and a third prize of two tickets chosen from any of the millennium party venues available to readers are also on offer.

Should you be unsuccessful in the competition, you can still take part in the festivities by booking the Fiji and Cook Islands trip separately or taking advantage of our selection of deluxe party venues round the world.

The parties are the brainchild of The Millennial Foundation, a non profit-making charity which is organising fundraising parties to help specific local charities across the world. In St Petersburg, for instance, the money will help restore the Hermitage gallery and fund the Kirov Ballet.

You could, for example, celebrate the dawn of the new millennium in the semi-tropical paradise of Bermuda. You will languish in luxury in the palatial Southampton Princess Hotel - Bermuda's most luxurious resort situated on the highest point on the island within a 100-acre estate. Golf, tennis, scuba diving and sailing are all available. The cost in 1999 would be £3,250 per person, but readers can secure their places now for £2,250 each. Commencing December 28, 1999, the cost includes air travel and hotel accommodation and your ticket to the gala party on New Year's Eve.



TOKEN 7



Question 7
What is the capital of Bermuda?

To enter the competition collect the 18 tokens and answer the 18 questions which are appearing between December 26 and Saturday January 14. Send the tokens and answers on a separate sheet of paper, stating in not more than 15 words why you would like to join in the celebrations, to: *The Times Millennium 2000 Competition, 5 Brittons Court, London EC8S 6NG.* Closing date January 31, 1995. Normal *Times* competition rules apply.

Details of how to book the millennium gala parties, which appeared last week, will appear again on Saturday. Further information about the parties can be obtained by writing to: Millennium 2000 Ltd, Freepost GW 7623, Glasgow G3 7BR.

Prospect of trade clash between US and China grows

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

A POTENTIALLY disastrous trade war between Washington and Peking over Chinese pirating of American goods loomed nearer over the weekend.

Peking called American threats to impose sanctions on $2.8-billion (£1.8-billion) worth of Chinese exports "barbarous action" and listed millions of dollars worth of retaliatory sanctions against American companies.

Also over the weekend, the Americans issued a 12-page list of the Chinese goods that would be targeted by sanctions. Apart from electronic products, they range from brass household chandeliers and fishing rods to candied nuts and paddling pools.

The Hong Kong Government expressed alarm at the damage such a trade war between its two largest trading partners would wreak here. Many local manufacturers invest heavily in Chinese factories and much of the bilateral trade between America and China moves through the colony.

At issue is Chinese pilfering of "intellectual" goods, such as CDs and video films. Some hit videos, such as *Jurassic Park* and *The Lion King*, went on sale in China before they were available in the United States.

Some experts claim that virtually all American music recordings, software, videos and books sold in China are pirated. Twenty-nine Chinese factories, some state-owned, are pressing 75 million pirated discs annually. Washington has demanded the closure of the factories.

The Americans have extended the deadline before they impose sanctions from December 31 to February 4. In previous struggles over copyright Peking has climbed down at the last hour. But it has done little to enforce its promises to crack down on piracy.

The conflict has become increasingly bitter, with the chief American negotiator, Mickey Kantor, accusing the Chinese of "a failure of will, not a failure of ability", while Peking has threatened to scrap or suspend joint-venture agreements not only with the major American car and aircraft firms but with all US firms. This would affect audio cassette tapes, videos, cigarettes and pharmaceuticals among other products.

The bilateral trade is huge but unequal. Chinese goods shipped to America constitute 40 per cent of all China's exports. In the first 10 months of last year the trade surplus in favour of China was $24.6 billion and it is another American demand that US goods be granted greater access to the Chinese market.

What is fuelling the bitterness is Peking's perception that America is responsible for preventing China from rejoining the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, (Gatt), and thus becoming a founder member of the new World Trade Organisation which comes into effect today. All this is part of America's "bluster" to force China to surrender to unreasonable demands. Peking maintained over the weekend.

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Secrets of Loch Ness



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

THE bottom of Loch Ness, little investigated for many years except by anorak-clad enthusiasts looking for the monster, is now rewarding proper study with an avalanche of interesting data.

Much of it comes from cores drilled into the bottom of the loch, where fine sediments provide an unequalled record of climatic and other changes over the past 10,000 years. Two cores more than six metres long have been drilled in a water depth of more than 300 metres.

The pollens within them show that the Highlands of Scotland enjoyed a golden age between about 4,000 and 2,000 years ago. Then, says Kate Farr of Wolverhamton University: "The northern part of the British Isles basked in the same kind of climate that the countries around the Mediterranean Sea enjoy today."

Summers were hot, winters warmer and drier, the country was covered with lush green forests and there were clear blue skies for most of the year. Life would certainly have been easier during this period, which spanned the end of the new Stone Age and the time when the inhabitants started using bronze tools.

Adrian Shine, of the Loch Ness Project, says the pollens begin at the end of the last glaciation with evidence of Siberian vegetation, progress through forestation, with birches and later oaks, and then show the rise of the Caledonian Forest dominated by Scots Pines.

The cores may be able to explain archaeological evidence from the region which suggests that the population, growing during the balmy period, abruptly disappeared. The hypothesis is that the eruption of a volcano in Iceland might have caused cooling and crop failures, making the people flee. If so, there should be evidence, in the form of glassy volcanic fragments in the cores.

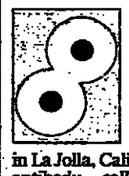
Shorter cores taken from the loch give evidence of more recent times, tracing the history of the Industrial Revolution through the increase and then decline of particles produced by coal and oil burning. These cores, now being analysed by Dr Vivienne Jones at University College London, show that the loch does not appear to be getting any more acid, possibly because acid rain is successfully buffered by the huge volume of water.

But they do show a slight enrichment in the loch water over the past 20 years, caused by human activities such as the use of fertilisers. This is indicated by a small shift in the types of diatoms, tiny creatures whose shells are preseved in the sediments. There are now fewer of the bottom-dwelling benthic diatoms, and more of the planctonic type. The cores also record the peak in atmospheric nuclear weapon testing (1963) and the Chernobyl accident in 1986.

Some mysteries remain. Why, for example, is there a layer of grit deeply buried in the bottom of the loch, when the rest of the sediment consists of very fine material? This could be evidence of a catastrophic flood thousands of years ago, when a huge volume of water swept through the loch carrying the grit with it.

With data as interesting as this, who needs monsters?

Cell death



A NEW treatment for cancer could emerge from experiments reported last week in *Cell* by researchers at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California. By using an antibody called LM609, the Scripps team has succeeded in test-tube experiments in preventing the growth of newly-formed blood vessels. Creating such vessels is essential for a tumour, which needs a blood supply in order to keep on growing.

"The antibody tricks these newly-forming vessels into self-destruction, or programmed cell death, by interfering with their survival signal," said Dr David Cheresh of Scripps, who is working on the research with Dr Peter Brooks.

The Scripps team used human tumour fragments placed in chicken embryos. Within a few hours, the pieces of tumour began attracting new blood vessels, just as they would in human beings. They were then injected with the antibody, or with a control antibody.

In those injected with LM609, the blood vessels to the tumours shrank and disappeared in the pancreas, breast, brain, lung and larynx. But in those treated with the control substance, the blood vessels proliferated and the tumours thrived.

Dr Cheresh said: "We don't want to oversell this — there is a lot more research to be done. But so far, we have a green light."

Hot news



THE first building in Britain to be completely clad in solar cells has been completed at the University of Northumbria in Newcastle. Work was finished last week and the building is due to be opened on January 19 by Ian Taylor, junior minister at the Department of Trade and Industry, which has helped support the project.

The building that has been transformed is a typical 1960s office block, which was beginning to show its age. The idea is to demonstrate that even in as northerly a latitude as Tyneside, solar cladding can generate useful amounts of power, as well as forming part of a building's exterior skin.

The electricity generated will be used within the building, after conversion to alternating current. When the sun is bright and internal demand small, such as during weekends, power will be fed into the university's own system and supply other buildings on the campus. It will also be linked to the local electricity grid.

A study carried out for the DTI and completed in 1991 suggested that cladding commercial buildings with photovoltaic cells could generate significant amounts of energy. By 2020, it was estimated, 100 gigawatts of capacity might be created in this way, almost twice Britain's total generating capacity at present.

An achievable target would be a more modest 12 GW — still very significant. The cost of electricity from the cells could be cheaper than conventionally-generated power within the next 15 years.

The moment that mankind took to the air

The pioneer of aviation was born 250 years ago — and his balloon is still a soaraway success, says **Giles Coren**

BRIDGEMAN LIBRARY



High flyers of the 18th century: a Montgolfier brothers' balloon flies over Aranjuez, Spain, in 1764 (from a painting by Antonio Carnicero)

IT is not often that aviation enthusiasts can celebrate an anniversary that looks back a quarter of a millennium into the mists of the 18th century. A science so unmistakeably modern as that of manned flight, one would think, can search no further than this century for its historic landmarks. But January 6, 1745, 250 years ago this week, saw the birth of Jacques-Etienne, one of 16 children, to Monsieur Pierre Montgolfier, a paper manufacturer in the small town of Vidalon, near Annonay, in Southern France.

With his older brother, Joseph-Michel, Jacques was to become one of the first pioneers of the air, and the Montgolfiers the first in a succession of brother teams to change the history of transportation.

Jacques, the more diligent of the brothers (Joseph was a habitual truant from school), became a successful architect before taking that softest of bourgeois options and joining the family business — where he tasted the success of discovery with the invention of a process for manufacturing vellum.

Both brothers were fascinated by the aviation theories of such early scholars as the 14th-century Augustinian monk Albert of Saxony, and the 17th-century Jesuit priest Father Francesco de Lana de Terzi. But niether made any serious attempt themselves until 1782.

It was then, quite by chance, that they noticed while working in the family factory the effect of rising smoke on particles of unburnt paper. It was one of those epiphanies that litter scientific history, like Archimedes' bath or Newton's apple, that from small beginnings radically alter the way we live. Using this observation as a basis for their work, they progressed within two years from inflating paper bags to the first crewed, untethered balloon flight in 1783.

On April 25 of that year they had demonstrated their invention in the market square at Annonay. A sphere of paper and linen with a diameter of about 35ft, calculated as being able to carry a weight of 450lb, was placed over a wood fire and rose to about 1,000ft before descending some 1,000 yards from the point of take-off. An uproarious crowd had witnessed the first flight of a vehicle capable of sustaining the weight of a man.

Encouraged by this success, the brothers tried their invention on a more demanding audience. On September 19, a crowd that included King Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette watched a 41ft Montgolfier balloon take off from the garden at Versailles with a sheep, a duck and a cock on board — history's first air-passengers.

The balloon rose to 1,700ft and headed off towards the forest of Vaucresson, where it descended eight minutes and two miles later. The passengers were unharmed and, by all accounts, very much enjoyed their flight.

Two months later came the first manned flight in an untethered balloon. François Pilâtre de Rozier and the Marquis de d'Arlandes made a 25-minute voyage from the Bois de Boulogne. Dirigibility being still a dream of the future, they drifted to and fro across Paris before landing at the Butte-aux-Cailles, some five-and-a-half miles away.

Brilliant though they were, the brothers did not get everything right. As well as the wood they burnt to generate the necessary heat, they also used manure, believing that the foul smell produced when it ignited was what was responsible for the levitation. Naming this emission phlogisten, they claimed to have discovered a new gas, not for a minute putting down their success to the fact that hot air rises. Their claims were swiftly refuted.

Sadly for the Montgolfiers, their position at the forefront of aviation was also to be challenged. The Robert brothers made the first flight in a hydrogen balloon on December 1, only 40 days later.

By the time of Jacques's death in 1799 the hydrogen balloon was the preferred method of aerial transportation, and it was not until the 1960s that the Montgolfier influence was felt again.

"We have the American airforce to thank for that," says Crispin Williams, chairman of the British Ballooning and Airship Club. "They were still using dirigibles at the time, and were looking for a cheap way to train their pilots. Hot air had not been used since the 18th century but the Americans put a lot of money into development, and recreational hot air ballooning soon followed."

"The advantage of the hot air balloon is the saving in price and time. The fuel for a flight costs only £25 and you can erect a balloon in about 20 minutes. After the flight it takes the same amount of time to dismantle. There is also the advantage that you can do it anywhere — not just where gas is available." Considering that it takes four hours and costs up to £1,500 to fill a hydrogen balloon, it is not surprisng that the ballooning boom of the past 25 years has been centred on the Montgolfier design.

"The Montgolfiers failed because they had to burn wood from a brazier and used paper to make the balloons," Mr Williams says. "On landing, the basket would often turn over and ignite the balloon. Now we have propane cannisters providing gas to a heater of the kind used for central heating systems, and the canopy is nylon."

Although the Montgolfiers were too busy ballooning to have children themselves, there are descendants of nephews and cousins at large in France — the family business is now a pottery. The present Jacques-Etienne, according to Mr Williams, is a well-known balloonist, but the French have been left behind.

Mr Williams is also head of Thunder & Colt, now part of Cameron, the biggest balloon makers in Britain. "We make the best balloons in the world," he claims. "Eighty per cent of the 350 we produce annually are exported, mostly to America. At anything from £8,000 to £30,000 per balloon, that represents a healthy trade." The gas balloon market, by contrast, is nearly dead, with no more than one or two built each year.

"No other recreation gives you a noise-free 360 degree panorama of the English countryside, and the time to talk about it with a group of friends," Mr Williams says. "And the fact that 70 per cent of British balloons are owned by hiring agents or by companies who use them for advertising ties nicely into history. From the very outset balloons were about commercialism. The Montgolfiers developed them only because they were looking for new ways to sell paper. The balloon was invented by market forces."

And at last, the business venture is paying dividends. "The real joy of balloon flight," according to Mr Williams, "is that you set off on a journey and never know where you are going." So was it in the dawn of aviation when two brothers put a sheep in a flying basket. The Montgolfiers have finally landed.

A library is thought in cold storage.

Herbert Samuel

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Marvels of calculus

A new book attempts to bring *e* out of hiding



John Napier came close to discovering *e* in 1614

NO matter how basic our understanding of mathematics, we have become so accustomed to using abstract numbers in everyday life that we take them for granted. No cook wonders about the existence of half a lemon. No shopkeeper is able to balance his books without making use of negative numbers, those "absurd" quantities which, when added to their positive counterparts, give zero. The Greeks already worked confidently with the number π, the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter, and no hat box could be designed without it.

As algebra forced on us fractions and negative numbers, and as geometry is unthinkable without π, so is the number *e* the marvel of calculus.

While the history of the geometric constant π has been told many times, the number *e* remains the poor relation of popular science, hidden away behind the closed doors of higher mathematics. A new book, *The Story of a Number* (Princeton University Press, £19.95) sets the record straight. But what is *e*?

Suppose I borrow £1 at an interest rate of 100 per cent a year. After a year I will owe £2 if the interest is compounded once only. However, the debt will be £2.25 if the interest is compounded twice in the year, £2.59 if compounded ten times in the year, £2.70 if compounded 100 times and so on, until ultimately the number $e = 2.71$ is reached. The practice of charging interest is probably as old as money itself, and one might expect *e* to have been discovered by shopkeepers and money lenders in the ancient world.

In the event, according to the author Eli Maor, it was the Scottish gentleman mathematician John Napier who came within a hair's breadth of discovering *e* when, in 1614, just before the birth of calculus, he invented logarithms. In the post slide-rule era, it is hard to appreciate the revolutionary impact that this precursor of the electronic calculator had on mathematics and the natural sciences.

In the number *e*, Maor has found a unifying theme for some of the most exciting history of calculus. Yet his book should be accessible to anyone with a basic knowledge of mathematics. He includes an account of the fascinating priority dispute between Newton and Leibniz, an account of the quarrelling Bernoulli family, Euler's discovery of the beautiful formula $e^{i\pi} = -1$, and even an apocryphal meeting between J.S. Bach and Johann Bernoulli.

In addition to the human and mathematical history, the book contains a potpourri of mathematical curiosities. These vary from an explanation of the slide-rule to a study of the logarithmic spiral and its occurrence in art and nature.

Maor gives *e* a well-deserved place in popular mathematics and at the same time stays true to the deep concepts of calculus from which *e* derives its central role in science.

ULRIKE TILLMANN

● *The author is a Fellow of Merton College, Oxford.*

Anjana Ahuja on the astronomers who see double

Asteroids caught in a close encounter

THEY were drawn together by physical attraction. She was charmed by his rocky rugged exterior, he by her tall fragile demeanour. Their delicate courting ritual was consumated with a cosmic kiss. Together they wandered the universe, hand in hand among the stars.

No, this is not Mills & Boon but a summary of a new asteroid theory that has put the g-force back into the glamour of space science. Asteroids, previously thought to be solitary wanderers in the solar system, may be roaming in pairs.

Amateur astronomers had long reported seeing double occultations (blackout) of stars by asteroids, suggesting a double-lobe shape for the asteroid. Yet only now, with irrefutable evidence uncovered by the Galileo spacecraft, have the professional astronomers been humbled into taking notice of the binary asteroid idea.

Galileo had flown by the asteroid 243 Ida, a chunk of billion-year-old rock 55 kilometers long sitting in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. When scientists played back the images, they were astonished to find a little moonlet, later named Dactyl, orbiting Ida. It was the third such discovery in five years — at least two previous asteroids which sped pass Earth had each been exposed as twin chunks of rocks snuggled together.

More evidence has lain under scientists' noses. About one seventh of the asteroids which impact on the Earth create a "doublet" crater. This suggests that a fair proportion of the near-Earth asteroids so beloved of doom-mongers may be pairs. The end may be doubly nigh.

It is believed that two large asteroids collided millions of years ago and gravity drew together pairs of rocks from the debris into either orbital pairs (not touching) or contact binary asteroids (touching).

Computer modelling carried out by Dan Durda at the University of Arizona, and reported in the latest issue of *Sky and Telescope*, recreates this catastrophic collision. He finds that both contact binaries and orbital pairs emerge. Now research is continuing into events that could herald double trouble for Earth.

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Village in the firing line

Should the Army hand back the Dorset village it commandeered in 1943 for D-Day practice? Walter Ellis reports





Top, children playing in Tyneham at the turn of the century. Above, the scene in 1949, with the lane overgrown and the cottages boarded up

At the turn of the year, with the air cold and crisp and the winter sunshine washing almost horizontally across the valley, Tyneham, in Dorset's deep south, takes on an elemental quality.

A few cows and sheep graze in the distance in rough fields: the twin escarpments, north and south, their elongated brows sharp as a knife, enfold the peaceful acres below, revealing here and there a hint of the sea beyond. In the middle, looking tiny and vulnerable, the spire of the Church of St Mary the Virgin juts out of its surrounding trees, supported by a handful of stone buildings, most of them open to the sky.

Nobody lives there and just one road goes in and out. The only sign of life in the village is an Army Land Rover parked outside the church with the word "warden" in large letters painted on its side.

What happened to Tyneham, mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086, is well known. A week before Christmas in 1943, it was seized by the army under Churchill's orders to enable tanks and other armoured vehicles preparing for the Normandy landings to hurl their shells with safety against the far side of the northern escarpment. Local thieves moved in within days of the evacuation to strip the church and the manor house (a Tudor gem begun in 1567) of their roof leading.

It was supposed to have been handed back at the end of hostilities, but it never was. The official reason the Army hangs on to its deserted village is that it still needs the surrounding area as a firing range. Beyond that arid, one suspects, of greater importance is the fact that it likes the place, and has grown used to controlling it. The Army has removed the roofs entirely from the various cottages in the village (though repairing the church), and demolished the manor house in the late Eighties.

Campaigns to "save" Tyneham have come and gone over the years. Every generation, it seems, since 1943 has fallen in love with its sad story. A book — *The Village That Died For England* by Patrick Wright, to be published in the spring by Cape — lists these various efforts, and sees in them a metaphor for developments in postwar social consciousness. But Wright, a habitnee clearly devoted to the place, comes to the conclusion that the status quo is as good a solution as any.

He is probably right to reject a revolutionary approach. English rural life is replete with examples of enforced "progress", and Tyneham, though kept unnaturally standing to attention by its military commanders, is a welcome example of a landscape in something approaching its natural condition. It used to be that the villagers themselves, dispossessed, in defence of hearth and home, were actively consulted about what should be done, but nearly all are dead now, or past caring. Those who get involved in the caring Nineties are mainly environmental activists even more appalled by the use to which the military puts this glorious corner of Wessex than they are by modern farming methods.

The activists would like to see Tyneham turned into a kind of organic theme park, in which neither army boots nor fertiliser would have a place. Others, no less robust, hope to see it turned back to the plough, the drill and the combine harvester and reintegrated in a haze of chemical dust with the rest of rural Dorset.

Rather more, however, including the bulk of local people living nearby, are happy with things as they are. The military have been an important part of the economy of the surrounding Isle of Purbeck for generations. Many Americans were stationed here in the lead-up to D-Day, and British armoured forces, with infantry attachments, have been part of the scene ever since. If the Army were to pull out of Lulworth camp, west of Tyneham, the local economy would be hard hit, with the loss of many civilian jobs and purchasing power dropping like a stone.

A prolonged moratorium would have to be enforced during which a thorough search for unexploded shells and other military detritus would be conducted by experts. Buyers would then have to be found for the land, willing to spend a lifetime reclaiming the wilderness for agriculture and tourism.

The victims, unless the National Trust could be persuaded to take on the job (which is highly unlikely, given the capital cost), would be the wildlife and flora which have flourished undisturbed for more than 50 years, and a scattering of local farmers permitted grazing rights for their cattle and sheep. The beneficiaries, albeit long-term, would be those ready to destroy the existing tranquillity and render the land commercially viable.

Major-General Mark Bond, a former ADC to Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, was the last of his line to live in the manor house and remains "angry and disgusted" by the destruction of his childhood home. Even so, as an Army man himself, he sees no alternative to a continuing military stewardship.

"It's not up to anyone except the Ministry of Defence. While they feel there is still a military use for the valley, the question of change doesn't arise. It's a long story, but one can't feel indignant for 50 years."

Major-General Bond remembers the village — which his family had owned for generations — as "an extraordinarily primitive place", without running water or electricity. He cannot believe many people would be prepared to make the necessary sacrifices over 25 years to make it worth living in today.

In the preserved, 19th-century schoolroom, built by one of the Major-General's ancestors, a message on the blackboard records, without apparent irony, the legend that "a flower is happiest in its own home". This is a reference by Dorset County Council's Countryside Service to the profusion of wildflowers in the valley, but could equally have been applied to the villagers of Tyneham ejected in their country's cause in 1943.

"Please treat the church and houses with care," ran the poignant message pinned to the front door of the church on the fateful day. "We have given up our homes, where many of us have lived for generations, to help to win the war and keep men free. We shall return one day and thank you for treating the village kindly."

They were conned, of course. But now that their betrayal is fading into history, good can be seen to have come from the Army's occupation. Tyneham lives on in the imagination of the thousands who visit it each year as a unique example of an England undisturbed and unreformed by technology. Plants and animals are not the only ones with cause to be grateful.

Will Archer join the immortals?

In an age of literary dross, the case for creating books that last



LIBBY PURVES

As the new year dawns and the common reader finds herself surrounded by the detritus of books-of-the-year choices, there is nothing more soothing to a hangover than to creep upstairs and lie supine, reading something rather old, in red cloth covers. Could be *Jane Eyre*, could be Dorothy L. Sayers, could be Tolstoy, could be Biggles. This year, however, my ritual retirement was marred by a piece of sinister news. Books, they say, are rotting.

The whistle was blown by a bookseller writing under the pseudonym of Mark Chivers. He says what many know: that most modern British hardbacks are printed on acid paper, glued not sewn, and shoddily bound.

After only a decade they become brittle and yellow and disintegrate. So much for our children's and grandchildren's chance of riffling happily, as we do, in the trays of second-hand bookshops for some forgotten but engaging personality. So much for Milton, and a good book being the precious lifeblood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up to a life beyond life. The worms now get the books even before they get the authors.

It has to be admitted that a lot of them deserve it. It has taken a while for our generation, brought up to think that hard covers equal immortality, to admit that hard covers now mean nothing. When a words had to be set in lumps of metal, publishers chose carefully. Now, electronic economics have brought freewheeling democracy: for the first time since Caxton the expression "give it a whirl!" rings through the halls of publishing. A quick short run is cheap; if it fails, pulp it.

The result is that among the admirable biographies, perennially entertaining novels and thoughtful essays of our time, some astonishing dross is published, looking just as permanent. Some novels, especially with piquant authorial names, are so ill-written and clumsily plotted, so devoid of wisdom or grace, that no publisher of 20 years ago would have looked at them.

But now, they say, even the good ones rot: libraries a century hence will be deprived of our generation's books. So what's to do? The clue was provided by *The Times* report that a few authors — such as Jeffrey Archer — insist on acid-free paper; and by A.S. Byatt's irritable, knee-jerk-snobbish response that: "There are books that need to be preserved and his are not among them."

So here is what we must do: and the prospect had me springing from underneath the pile of old favourites on the bed. We must set up a committee which, each New Year's Day, shall decide on a "Library List" of 100 titles published in Britain in the preceding twelvemonth. The list shall be reprinted and bound to last forever, funded by public subscription. And here is the fun: who are you going to put on the committee? For, after the dozen obvious contenders — the top biographies and histories, the Whitbread book, Alan Bennett — things would get very sticky indeed.

Imagine the scene: grave and reverend seignors from the leader pages explaining why Sir Peter De La Billière's ghosted memoirs simply must be in; aggressive terriers from the pop-culture reviews snarling that Jilly Cooper says more about our age than bleeding Martin Amis; Sunday literary editors log-rolling for their friends' girlfriends; the Romantic Novelists Association rep lashing out with her umbrella at the Friends of Will Self; someone bravely battling for Bernard Cornwell's sea stories, on the grounds that Nevil Shute's adventures have lasted beautifully and are finding a new generation of fans, which is more than can be said for some of the heavier literati of his era; a sharp little spat, perhaps, over whether if you couldn't see Stephen Fry on the telly any more you would really want to read all that disgusting stuff about sex with horses.

Someone would be bound to point out that when Angus Wilson died all his books were out of print, but that we now see how good he was, and suppose they had rotted? While the Common Readers panel would act as a muttering chorus, saying that if they still like Dorothy Sayers and Ngaio Marsh, why the hell shouldn't their grandchildren get the chance to read Jeffrey Archer?

The debate could run for a full week, with meals brought in and nobody released until a list was agreed. Come to think of it, you could televise the whole thing to pay the costs of the reprint. Maybe the panellists — Lord Rees-Mogg, Fay Weldon, Alan Yentob and the rest — could settle the final few places with a *Gladiators*-type fight with giant foam pens, balanced over a tubful of shredded remainder copies. Why not?

Julia Llewellyn Smith finds out why growing numbers of priests are seeking job protection

God's own union

WHEN the Rev Anthony Bell wanted to join a union he had problems filling out the application form. "It asked for the name of my employer. Well, it's very hard to enter God into a computer, so I put Church of England, Millbank, London." He ended up a member of the southwest London branch of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance union (MSF), 250 miles south of his parish in Co Durham.

Why was Mr Bell joining a union in the first place? Vicars ought to be rosy-cheeked, unworldly ditherers. The thought of priests picketing the bishop's midnight Mass or refusing to perform baptisms until their stipends are raised is ludicrous.

Nonetheless, since September when the MSF (the aptly-dubbed "white-collar" union) opened a clerical section, 300 vicars have paid their subs and membership is increasing steadily.

CLERGY are looking for shelter from a Church in chaos. Their fears are prompted by proposals to abolish the ancient parson's freehold and its guarantee of job security and free housing until the age of 70, and to replace it with fixed-term contracts, which can be ended at a bishop's whim.

Church finances are being dramatically reorganised after commissioners lost millions on the property market; parishes are being amalgamated and posts are disappearing. In all of this the clergy, who are officially self-employed, have no legal safety nets.

Many of the MSF's recruits are those opposed to the ordination of women, who fear that the bishops may try to weed them out as potential troublemakers. They are campaigning for "fair hearing" for clergy sacked on conscientious grounds, such as the Rev Anthony Freeman, a Sussex vicar who was dismissed earlier this year when he announced he did not believe in the traditional concept of God. "The union is independent of the theological rigours," says Mr Bell. "They are looking at how one finds justice in disputed situations: looking after a member whether right or wrong. God loves a sinner whether he's right or wrong."

Kit Chalcraft, a Norfolk vicar, was recently dismissed when he announced his intention of marrying for the third time. Susanne Hall, Mr Chalcraft's fiancée, is outraged by his treatment and by the lack of after-care available to sacked clergy. "There's nothing, no redundancy, no hearings, a pathetic pension," she says. "No one is coming round to ask 'Well, what will you do with your life now?' "

According to Ms Hall, union membership for clergy should be "virtually compulsory. A dedicated priest is really not a very material man," she says. "He may be frightfully conversant with the ideals of Antioch, but if he loses his job he's like a nun coming out of an enclosed order and not knowing how to buy a bus ticket. Many priests are very shy and simply cannot fight these battles for themselves."



Tony Bell: worker priest

Mr Bell agrees that many priests need the security of a union, as a base for negotiation. "Recently a woman priest came to me very upset," he says. "She had just received a contract from the archdeacon stipulating very unreasonable working hours. He changed his mind when he heard she had joined the union and they negotiated a much more satisfactory deal."

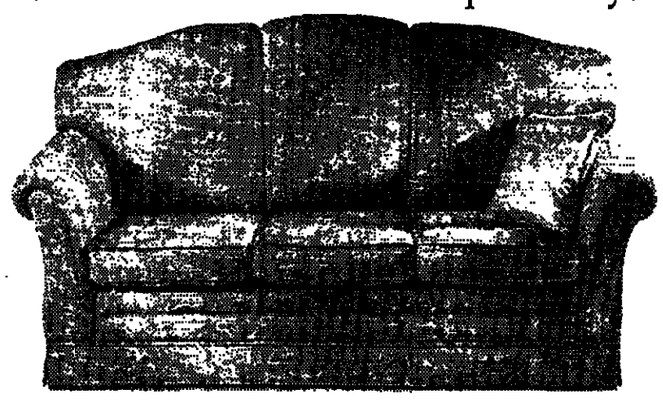
However, Mr Bell's reasons for joining the union are more philosophical than practical. At the age of 47, Mr Bell spends half his time as the parish priest of Byers Green and half as an industrial chaplain. Ordained in 1973, he was a curate in Peterlee when he learned about the worker priest system, a scheme inspired by French priests, who, during the wartime occupation, infiltrated Nazi labour camps by working in disguise alongside their compatriots.

THE concept appealed to Mr Bell. "It is a statement of what the Gospel is about. If God can come to us in the form of Jesus Christ to get his hands dirty, then we can do the same. The Church was traditionally identified with the nobility in this country; it was out of touch with the workers."

To Mr Bell, trade unionism is fundamental to a Christian society. "Unions are championing what the Church is about: the deprived, the rejected, the people who have been given no stake in our society."

Self-protection is not, however, Mr Bell's main concern. "The Church needs to be restructured," he says. "Abolition of the freehold is a good thing. I don't suppose the clergy should feel any more secure than anyone else."

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Matthew Parris



■ History may remember the colony's last imperial Governor for a quite unexpected reason

Hong Kong

King Alfred did not expect to be renowned only for burning the cakes, and Catherine the Great would be depressed to learn that her reputation rests on her nymphomania. History is to prone to a dismaying *lèse majesté*, and few of us are remembered as we would choose: we are lucky to be remembered at all. Popular recollection has an impertinent way with the facts.

I bring impertinent tidings from Hong Kong. The last Governor may be engaged with the destinies of millions, yet he and his wife may find lasting fame for their connection with the two tiny personalities who have become even more famous in the Orient than Chris and Lavender Patten. I speak of their dogs, "Whisky" and "Soda".

Whisky is the boy. Soda his lady friend, and both are Norfolk terriers. Their relationship, though warm, is probably platonic, for reasons we shall pass over to spare Whisky's dignity. Both are the colour of gingernut biscuits, with twinkling little black eyes like *wet currants*. Both are adorable. Both nip.

The canine duo first became famous not long after the Pattens' arrival in Hong Kong, when Whisky was lost. The story is too well-known to need repeating. Days passed and media interest grew. All Hong Kong, it seemed, and soon all Britain too, wondered about the fate of a little dog lost in a place where there are snakes. Finally Whisky gave himself up. *The world wept with joy.* It may be that Whisky's absence was a shrewd bid for media attention.

And boy did he get it! No story from Hong Kong has won such headlines in Britain. It must be the most famous doggy AWOL in history. All week the news was full of it: "background" pieces, "colour" pieces, opinion pieces — and even a "racist slur row" when commentators suggested that an English terrier might have fallen victim to the Chinese chopstick.

It is still the incident people in Britain remember most about Mr Patten's governership. When, some days later, Lavender Patten arrived in Indonesia, this was the first topic raised with her on leaving the aircraft. The dogs' claim on history seemed assured.

But Whisky and Soda have decided to consolidate. A dog can really do only one of three things to be famous: get lost, rescue someone or bite. Having explored the first option, and being too small to attempt the second, *Whisky and Soda seized on* the third. They bit people. Each bit one person, in separate incidents.

This, too, has become famous in Hong Kong. Whisky had to be detained in kennels for a month — a sort of canine jail. Both his incarceration and his release featured in local news and gossip. Mike Tyson could not hope for more.

Ten days ago, when I arrived here, an entire leading article in the *South China Morning Post* was devoted to the question of whether or not the dogs should be exempt from new muzzling laws. The Editor concluded with the thought that, as with their master, a friendly manner could disguise a readiness to bite.

Between Christmas and the new year, your columnist was out walking with Mr and Mrs Patten, guests and dogs. It was a long and beautiful walk, down paths in the New Territories. Chinese families were out for the day like us, and we passed many on the narrow path. Chris Patten delivering his trademark "Hi, how are you?" and Whisky delivering his trademark "yap".

Everyone seemed to recognise the Governor. We encountered a family coming the other way. "Hi-how-are-you?" (*yap*) — a friendly grin from the Governor. There were squeals and *smiles and much* excited chatter in Cantonese. When *the family* were out of earshot Mr Patten turned to his Chinese bodyguard: "What were they saying, Simon?"

> It wasn't the Governor and his wife that they were discussing, but the dogs

"They were *saying* 'Oh look! There are those dogs! We've read about *them*. They have bitten people. It's written in the newspaper'." Mr Patten smiled ruefully.

Ten minutes later a larger Chinese party passed us. "Hi-how-are-you?" (*yap yap*). The Governor beamed graciously, as Governors do. Everyone in the Chinese party was jabbering away vigorously in Cantonese. "Well, Simon?"

"Sir, they were saying 'Oh look! It's those dogs which attack people. One was even in prison. Don't walk too close to them. Dogs know if *you're afraid*'."

In 900 days, Chris Patten will be coming home, hopeful of a grateful nation's recognition of a job well done. Some chance! Yet there is one slim hope for the Patten place in history: returning with him will be (God willing) two *small Norfolk terriers. Six* months' quarantine? Poor things! What better moment, in tribute to the Pattens, to review our silly and unscientific laws on rabies control?

It may then be that, after the Yuanch. Ming and Qing dynasties on mainland China will come the Whisky and Soda dynasty (1992-97) on Hong Kong: but that in the annals of British *agricultural regulation, history* will call the reform of our rabies law the "Chris Patten amendment". For which of us can choose the point at which we brush with history?

Labour's proposals for Scotland and Wales may be popular, but they are half-measures, full of anomalies

Into the quagmire of devolution

William Rees-Mogg

It is 20 years since Scottish devolution was last an immediate issue. Tony Blair was not then even a Member of Parliament. If he had been, he would be more aware of the explosive nature of Scottish constitutional reform. In the mid 1970s, I took a small group of *Times* journalists to Scotland to talk to *various groups about the issues of* devolution and independence. Three conclusions became clear, whether we were *talking to businessmen or* politicians, to committed Scottish Nationalists, to supporters of the *Labour Party or even to Tories.*

The first was that all Scottish people regard Scotland as a separate nation, very different from England. Even those who want to preserve the present form of the United Kingdom, a minority then as now, belong to this Scottish nation and are proud of it. The second conclusion was that the issue of devolution or independence might be postponed — as was in fact to happen — but would not disappear. The long-term trend was steadily growing support for greater independence for Scotland.

These conclusions fit well with Labour policy and partly account for *the continued weakness of Conservative* support in Scotland. The Conservatives have become the English party in Scotland, and that must always be a minority position.

The third point, however, tells the other way. Scottish devolution has always been a very complicated and contentious issue. Any government that embarks on a devolution policy is, as John Major has said, entering dangerous waters. Roy Jenkins is just completing his *Life of Gladstone*, which will be one of the major *publishing events of 1995. Tony Blair* may well find that a Scottish Home Rule Bill is as hard to handle as *Gladstone found Irish Home Rule.*

The Labour Party is committed, subject to having a sufficient majority, to enacting three constitutional *Bills in the first year of a new parliament.* One would establish a parliament for Scotland, with taxing *powers, the second would establish* an assembly for Wales, without taxing powers, the third would deprive hereditary peers of the right to vote in the House of Lords.

Even this House of Lords proposal, which seems quite simple, is in practice difficult. It implies that the individual member's right to vote in Parliament is a matter for statute, not for the individual privilege of each House separately. That itself is an issue of law which could go to our highest court — the House of Lords. The proposed Bill would create a wholly nominated chamber of life peers, which many people would regard as an objectional increase in patronage. But even if these objections were overcome, abolition of the voting *rights of hereditary peers* would take up many days of parliamentary time. There is no guillotone in the House of Lords, and diehard hereditary peers, some of them Scottish, or perhaps even life peers, could put down numerous amendments. Such a dispute would make it harder to carry Scottish Home Rule through the House of Lords in the same year.

The Welsh assembly will have *lesser powers than this Scottish Parliament.* That is an insult to Welsh Nationalism. Left to themselves, the *Welsh might be content with such an* assembly, but they will not be happy with less independence than Scotland. When I chaired the Arts *Council in the 1980s, that body was* still the Arts Council of Great Britain, and Scotland and Wales were both *funded through it, though on a* devolved basis. The Welsh members always insisted that Wales must be treated at least as well as Scotland.

There are also jealousies in the English regions. The North of England already resents the advantages Scotland enjoys in regional government. Labour proposes to create English regional assemblies, but these will come later in the parliament and will have fewer powers than the proposed Scottish parliament.

If there is to be a Scottish parliament, what powers will it have? If it can tax, what taxes will it be allowed to impose? Will it be elected at the same time as the British parliament, or will the Scottish parliamentary elections become a focus for protest, as European and local government *elections are now? Could there be a* Labour majority at Westminster, committed to controlled devolution, but a Scottish Nationalist majority in the Scottish parliament, committed to independence? Will the two parliaments fight each other for power and *money?* Will the Scottish parliament be elected on a proportional system?

There are interesting juridical *points. Will the Scottish Parliament* be the successor to the old pre-Union Scottish Parliament under Scottish *law? If so, it will become the* sovereign parliament in Scotland; would such a sovereign parliament continue to accept the Westminster House of Lords as the ultimate court of appeal on Scottish law?

There are controversial fiscal issues too. Scotland will presumably expect to tax North Sea oil. Is Westminster prepared to forgo North Sea revenues, or will there be double taxation? Scottish territorial waters would have to be determined. Under existing international law, territorial boundaries extend along their existing lines to define boundaries in the sea. That formula favours England in *terms of North Sea oil. A lot of* "Scottish" oil might prove to be "English" after all.

Scotland at present is over-represented in the Westminster Parliament — the average Scottish electorate is considerably smaller than the English. Will this be corrected? And will the number of Scottish seats at Westminster be reduced, thereby probably reducing *any Labour majority? Scottish mem*bers vote on legislation which only affects England and Wales; if there is a new Scottish parliament, English and Welsh members may not be able to vote on similar Scottish laws, perhaps including such matters as education or health. Scotland appears to be subsidised by English taxpayers. Will this continue? There are many possible ways of calculating taxation and expenditure; there could well be heated disputes about the size or even the existence of this subsidy.

These are only a few a questions which will arise. Even if one accepts that Scotland wants devolution, they have no obvious right answers, let alone agreed ones.

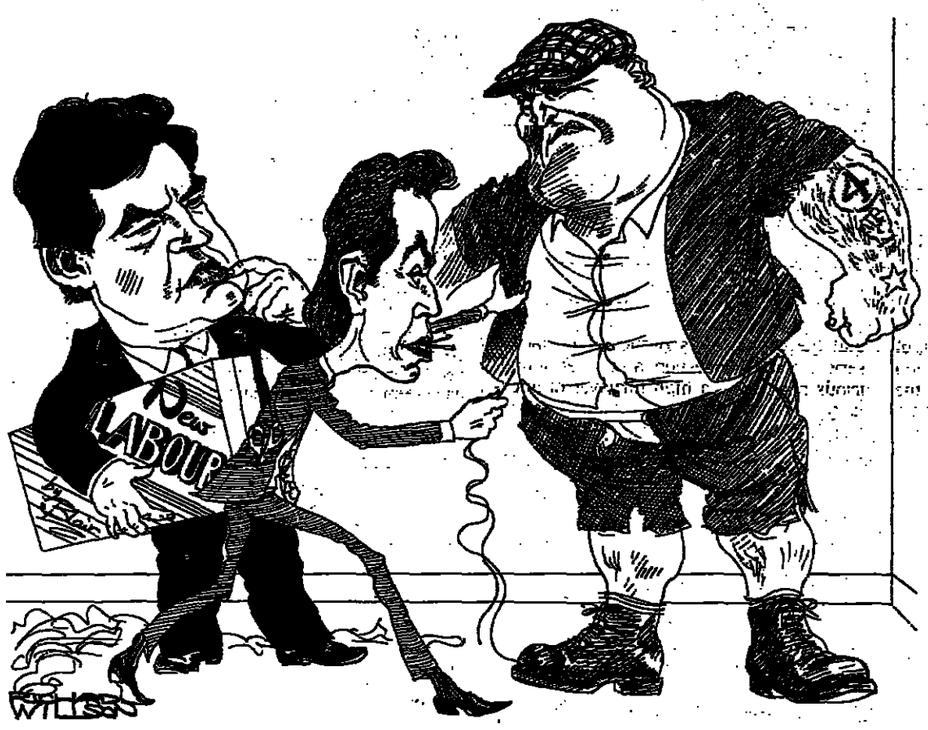
In the 1970s, I came back from Scotland with the conviction that there were only three possible constitutions which could work. Unfortunately, the Labour Party has not opted for any of them. A unitary *system has worked reasonably well* for nearly 300 years. It may now be running out of Scottish consent; some 80 per cent of Scottish voters want to change it. A fully federal system might work, in which every part of the United Kingdom had dual representation, in its own regional parliament and at Westminster, with the same powers for Scotland, Wales and the English regions. Such constitutions work satisfactorily in Germany, the United States and elsewhere. Or Scotland could be fully independent, and become a separate member of the European Union.

The Labour Party scheme would be *none of these. It is a quasi-federation* in which Scotland would have privileges denied to Wales and the English regions, and giving obvious grounds for conflict between the Scottish and Westminster parliaments. That is unfair, and would be unstable.

These disputes would arise on serious matters and would be likely to become heated. In England they would help to elect nationalist Tories; *in Scotland they would help to elect* Scottish Nationalists. Like many halfway-houses, Labour's devolution proposals would only be a temporary stopping-place and would probably prove to be a posting-inn on the road to full Scottish independence.

Power is another matter

Peter Riddell says Labour might make a better government — but not yet



Tony Blair says Labour is ready to govern and is anxious to govern. Two-thirds of the public agrees. They are wrong. Labour may form the next Government, but the party is nowhere near prepared for office.

There is a big difference between campaigning and governing. Labour faces the mirror-image of the Tories' problem. Just as most ministers cannot envisage being out of office, many Opposition spokesmen cannot imagine what is involved in running *a Whitehall department. This is* hardly surprising since so few have been ministers, or were even MPs when Labour was last in power. But the price is a negative culture of opposition, condemning all government actions.

At a time when the Tories are so unpopular, an anti-Government approach is appealing. It is possible to devise a winning campaign around *charges of broken promises and the* insecurities of ordinary families. Bill Clinton did so in 1992. But many of his promises were mutually contradictory. It proved to be impossible to reduce the Budget deficit, provide a short-term economic stimulus, encourage long-term investment in training and infrastructure and cut taxes for working families all at the same time. Mr Clinton's inability as President to reconcile these pledges, even though the US economy was strong, explains why the Democrats *suffered so thorough a rout in the* mid-term elections eight weeks ago.

Mr Blair is well aware of these traps. As he said in his *Frost* interview for the BBC before Christmas, the lesson of the American elections is that Labour — or "new Labour" as he always calls the party — has to be clear about its priorities: "what we're going to do, what we're going to achieve and you deliver those specific objectives. You don't run on one basis and govern on another." Mr Blair has deliberately played down Labour's electoral successes — arguing that while the public is disaffected from the Tories and wants change, it needs to be sure of Labour. That is a sensible approach. Despite four election defeats, many in the party are prone to complacency. But Mr Blair has to define these priorities and to show *that his party accepts them.*

Much of the effort of the past decade, under Neil Kinnock and *John Smith*, has been directed at removing past handicaps: ditching unilateralism and opposition to the European Union, council house sales and strike ballots. But that process is a necessary rather than a sufficient condition for success in office.

The argument over Clause Four of the party constitution is not a diversion. It is a symbol of the party's willingness to show that it has changed, strengthening what Mr Blair describes as "the bond of trust" with the public. As Jack Straw has argued, *the familiar wording* was proposed in 1918 by the modernisers of the day in order to appeal to *middle-class voters. Its language,* about "the common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange", has always been meaningless in practice and looks absurdly out-of-date now. There is no commitment to social justice, eradicating poverty or equality of opportunity. There are indeed tricky issues *over public ownership, but it should* not be too hard to produce a new formula. The danger is that a new clause will be woolly.

Mr Blair has to overcome immense conservatism and suspicion, as shown by the narrow decision in favour of the existing Clause Four at the Labour conference and votes since then for its retention by many local parties. Mr Blair is respected rather *than liked by many Labour MPs and* activists. He is not "one of them" by background, unlike his recent predecessors. *He also has uneasy relations* with the unions. A special conference on Clause Four is being held in late April, just before the main union conferences, to avoid the risk that they will vote against changes. With the unions now so powerless in relation to both the Government and employers, candidates for the general-secretaryships and main posts in the big unions (several of whom will be elected over the next year) are fighting about Labour Party issues. Many challengers are likely to take *left-wing positions.*

The doubts about Mr Blair have been fuelled by his and his wife's decision to send one of their children to a grant-maintained school. This is a reasonable personal decision for anyone not brought up in a narrow culture of political activism, but it is offensive to many activists, especially teachers. Labour remains uncertain about how much independence *should be retained by grant-maintained schools or by hospital trusts.*

Labour has become so used to opposing that it has not had to define credible policies of its own. On Europe, the party has had an easy ride because of Tory splits, and has not had to define what its generally "pro" instincts mean with regard, for instance, to the powers of EU institutions. On the economy, Gordon Brown has achieved much as Shadow Chancellor. The Government was forced to abandon the second stage of the VAT increase on domestic fuel, while Labour is consistently and clearly rated ahead of the Tories on issues of economic competence. Mr Brown's campaign about fairness in taxation and his criticism of abuses in the tax system and by monopoly utilities have struck home. But Labour's alternative remains vague. There are interesting ideas, about helping the unemployed back into work, about encouraging training, a university for industry and the like. But on macroeconomic policy — levels of spending and borrowing and, in particular, a European single currency — the qualifications are more apparent *than the commitments. The party's* economic policy commission is well under way, but nothing controversial *will be said until after the Clause* Four conference.

For all the shouts of "Tories out", the Labour leadership is fortunate that an election during the coming year is highly unlikely. The party needs all the time available to prepare for office.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Suitable man

AS JOHN MAJOR fervently tries to thrust his *annus horribilis* behind him, he is at least marching ever more smartly into 1995. For, slowly and quietly, he has undergone something of a make-over. The suits are now noticeably better fitting; the shirts and ties are brighter.

Norma failed to cajole him into *taking more of an interest in his* appearance. So did Sarah Hogg, Gus O'Donnell and his successor, *Chris Meyer.*

The one to succeed where all others failed, I gather, was *Arabella Warburton. Major's very* Sloaney diary secretary. Warburton worked for many years at the *Foreign Office for Lord Howe, who* also blossomed visibly under her critical eye.

When she heard moans from fellow aides at No 10 about how the Prime Minister had scorned their sartorial suggestions, Warburton decided to proffer occasional snippets of advice. More distinctive ties and shirts, usually in pastel colours, from Aquascutum (Baroness Thatcher's favourite outfitter) now grace the prime ministerial torso. And in recent months, a couple of smarter suits have appeared at "big" occasions, including a rather nifty grey number — a colour Major used to eschew for fear of exacerbating his "grey" image.

"It's not been dramatic enough for anyone to sit up and take much notice of so far," admits an aide. "But *we all think* he's looking a lot smarter lately."



● *Rice-wine hangovers can be soothed for the first time this new year with the reassuring "plink plink fizz" of our best-known stomach-settler. Alka Seltzer has just been launched in Japan.*

Give away

NO, ELSIE BUSHEN, who left £2 million to help cut the national *debt, is not related to our Chancel*lor Kenneth Clarke, I am assured. But the Treasury was once linked *to a similar offer. An anonymous* letter in *The Times* in 1919 signed F.S.T. exhorted others to copy its *author by, in effect, handing a large* part of their wealth to the Exchequer. F.S.T. said he intended to *donate £150,000 of his £580,000* dowry to the nation.

Years later, F.S.T. was identified *as the then Financial Secretary to* the Treasury, Stanley Baldwin.

Hour side

FRANCE appears to be getting nearer. Anglophiles on Eurostar's supertrain report that conductors advise them to alter their watches to French time as soon as they enter the Folkestone end of the Chunnel. On their return, they are not told to reset them until the train surfaces *into the Kent countryside.*

To aggravate historic Anglo-French hostilities further, I note that one of the new bars at the Waterloo Chunnel terminal has been named *Bonaparte.*

Zut alors!

Gang stir

LORD BOOTHBY's handwritten letter to the then Home Secretary, Henry Brooke, released under the 30-year rule, is a classic of its kind. In the six pages, the peer vigorously dismisses rumours of a homosexual affair with the underworld gangster Ronnie Kray.

But the letter also reveals that one aspect which really *made the* ex-Tory minister shudder with horror was the allegation in a newspaper about his and Kray's "relationships" with chaps in dog-collars. In outraged tones, Boothby told Brooke that the *Sunday Mirror* had referred to "the association between the peer, East End gangsters, and (for Heaven's sake) a number of clergymen".

A record

UNUSUALLY coy about affairs of the heart yesterday, Alan Clark coolly informed Sue Lawley on *Desert Island Discs*: "I am reluctant to explain my views on love to a stranger, Sue."

But not a total stranger. In his *Diaries*, Clark passes his verdict on Lawley after an unhappy appearance on *Question Time*. After a series of catty exchanges, he describes her as "bitchlike". "She, an attractive woman, spotted at once that I have lecherous tendencies but did not actually fancy her."

Hats off

THEY WILL be raising their hats rather more often than they used to at James Locke & Co, the Piccadilly *hatter frequented by the royal fam*ily. For the first time since the company was founded in 1676, there is a milliner on the premises to look after female clientele.



Sylvia Fletcher: adding lustre to Locke's stock

Sylvia Fletcher took up residence at James Locke's just before Christmas and has already started a fashion department. "Some of the chaps here can't believe anyone would wear the catwalk creations," she explains breezily. "It's a bit of a bastion here isn't it? But I've wriggled my way in."

Nevertheless, one or two regulars have been stopped in their stride by the ebb and flow of fashionable young girls. I am reassured, though, that trade in the gents' section is booming alongside the ladies' department.

P.H.S

UTOPIA INVENTED

June 1945: the United Nations is born

The United Nations Charter, signed by 50 governments in San Francisco on June 26, 1945, was the blueprint for what was rightly seen as a great imaginative enterprise. The 78 tons of paper that went into the two months of final amendments prefigured the UN's subsequent reputation as a papermill; but the resulting document retains, 50 years on, a considerable moral resonance.

Such doubts as there were about the new organisation centred, inevitably, on the prospects of preventing future wars. Soviet forces, which had been mopping up Central Europe like a sponge, were surrounding Berlin in April as the conference opened. The Charter's security clauses, deliberately ultra-conservative, were aimed at locking Moscow into a rule-based international regime. For Britain and America, the powers which drew up the Dumbarton Oaks draft presented at San Francisco, the priority was to create a watertight system of collective security. In the real world, they believed, this could only be based on the combined military power of the most powerful wartime Allies — Roosevelt's "global policemen", who were given veto power and permanent seats on the new UN Security Council.

The interwar years had left few illusions about the readiness of governments to have their feet held to the fire when called on to resist aggression. The Charter left as little as possible to chance. It empowered the Council to determine threats to international peace, and to require governments to make forces available. Even so — prudently, in the event — it also hedged the collective security bet: Article 51 allowed for traditional self-defence, should the UN fail. Hailing the result, *The Times* underlined the need for "a sane and a healthy caution" about the UN's capacity to "repair the failure of its predecessor", the League of Nations. We attached most weight to the certainty that the US would join the UN, breaking with its tradition of avoiding "entangling alliances".

But in other respects, what distinguished the Charter was an optimistic secular humanism, egalitarianism, and confidence in common purposes. "We the peoples", the famous words with which its preamble opens, underscored the hope that the UN would be far more than "a method for carrying on relations between states" — Sir Alfred Zimmern's somewhat dry summary of the League's functions. In its emphasis on bringing states together, as well as keeping them apart, the Charter broke new ground.

The experiences of the Great Depression, total war and the Holocaust had created a profound shift in the demands made of international organisations. The UN was to "win the peace" by promoting President Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms" — freedom from fear and from want but also freedom of speech and religion. The Charter was a ringing affirmation of the inalienability of individual human rights and a statement of mutual human solidarity. There was a novel determination to call states to account not only for their behaviour towards other states, but for the treatment of their own people. It was also a document rich in contradictions, both political and structural.

For all the Charter's emphasis on citizens' rights, the UN was and is a club of governments, fiercely resistant to investigations into their domestic misconduct. The Charter accentuated the role of the state, on the eve of revolutions in technology and communications which were to limit the effective powers of governments. As a result, too many UN agencies, created to promote the management of change, lumbered in its wake. Its machinery became slowfooted, unaccountable and strategically adrift. Fifty years on, the Charter retains its resonance, and the end of the Cold War has created new needs and opportunities for institutions with global reach. But it has also robbed the UN of its excuse for ineffectiveness. There are many more clubs than there were in 1945; governments will turn to those that work best. Competition is healthy: the UN's next 50 years will depend on its readiness to adapt. The reinvention of government, a prominent feature of the past decade, needs to find its global dimension.

DIAL 999 FOR REFORM

Something is rotten in the state of London's ambulances

The official report, due later this month, of the delays and incompetence in the London Ambulance Service that led last July to the death from kidney failure of an 11-year-old girl — Nasima Begum — will provoke widespread outrage. Ambulances are the first vital link to the medical services that save lives; society has a right to expect that they will respond swiftly and effectively when lives are in the balance. Yet all too often, and with occasionally tragic consequences, vital minutes are lost because of bureaucracy and union demarcation disputes. Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, has rightly decided to use this case as a catalyst for sweeping reforms.

Few people blame the ambulance crews themselves, and nor does the report into the Begum case. The dedicated men and women of the emergency services save thousands of lives each year by their initiative, skill and quiet efficiency at critical moments. What is unacceptable, however, is the framework in which they operate, especially in London. The overwhelming complaint is that ambulances fail to arrive on time. A delay of over half an hour is not uncommon; and some stations even refuse now to dispatch ambulances unless they are called out by a doctor. The capital has a far worse record than provincial ambulance services, with only just over half the number of calls answered within the recommended time of 14 minutes. It almost two years since Mrs Bottomley promised a management shake-up after the disastrous breakdown in the new computer system; but public confidence has not yet been restored.

London ambulance authorities maintain that the capital faces particular obstacles: serious traffic congestion, a number of malicious hoax calls, a high turnover of ancillary staff and a confusing variety of hospitals with differing jurisdictions and areas of expertise. The authorities also claim that the service has been starved of money and investment and that manning levels have been allowed to deteriorate. Some of this is true; and the government is to spend an extra £15 million on 100 new ambulances and 240 additional paramedics for London this year.

What the London Ambulance Service has not admitted, however, is that its greatest failing is poor management. Too often responsibility is shirked at all levels of the service — and this includes hospitals who refuse to accept patients, forcing ambulance crews to ferry the critically ill from place to place while they haggle over the availability of beds. A poisoned political atmosphere, envenomed by strikes and bad blood between unions and management, has made reform of the service unnecessarily confrontational. Attempts to force an efficient use of resources are seen, wrongly, as evidence of the piecemeal dismantling of the National Health Service.

The public has a right to a first-class ambulance service, even in cities as large and demanding as London. Armed with official evidence of a defective system of management, Mrs Bottomley must use the tragedy of Nasima Begum's death to enforce better working practices, the full exploitation of reserves and voluntary services such as the Red Cross, and an end to rule-bound inflexibility. Not another child or pensioner should die by unpardonable default.

EXIT ON QUEUE

The bylaw has gone but the line for the bus remains



It is worth trying for a moment, as George Orwell wrote in *The English People*, to put oneself in the position of a foreign eye-witness new to England. "Our imaginary observer would certainly be struck ... by the lack of pushing and quarrelling, the willingness to form queues..." He would also be struck to learn — as even many Britons surely would — that the patient queues that have for years arranged themselves at bus-stops might be the products not of some blood-instinct but of a mundane bylaw.

In 1938, it was decreed that the passengers for buses and trams must "wait in lines or queues in an orderly manner", Jostling, and other methods more suited to the rugby field, were forbidden on pain of a £2 fine. From the first day of 1995 however, for the first time in over half a century, this bylaw will no longer be in force. Bylaws, which constitute the coalface of our legal system, are curiously prone to obsolescence; and the "queue bylaw" was no exception.

Foreigners react to our queues in one of two ways: they either scoff at them as proof of the Briton's docile nature ("like a sheep with a sheep's practical instinct," jeered Wagner), or to venerate them as evidence of hi[illegible]nd's intuitive grasp of civic arrange[illegible]e, as it were, on [illegible]ham [illegible] the Cal[illegible]p omnibus). We would tend to recommend the second view as the better, if only because it is impossible to accept that so fundamental a feature of the British character could have been set in place by the merest of bylaws.

The abolition of the transport bylaw of 1938 will, no doubt, entice out of the woodwork the usual revisionists: if Churchill is not thought sacrosanct, why should the queue be so? Yet the suggestion that the queue is but a line-come-lately should be resisted with the tenacity displayed by those tireless souls who wait daily for the 168 to Archway, or for the D9 to Canary Wharf. The British queue was born not of necessity but of good manners, manners which many would maintain are today under threat (although for reasons unrelated to the repeal of bylaws). How unlike the old Soviet queue it is, in this respect.

Lines in Moscow or Vladivostok were bred by need and fatalism. The Soviet Union's weary masses stood — both literally and as metaphors — as indictments of a failed system. The British queue, on the other hand, exudes a quiet satisfaction, the mellowness of polished routine, a belief in the world's certitudes and — perhaps — a touching excess of faith in our system of public transport.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Confusion over redating of St Matthew's Gospel

From Dr Carsten Peter Thiede

Sir, While the controversy about the dating of the three papyrus fragments from Matthew's Gospel at Magdalen College, Oxford, may continue for some time to come, it is puzzling to find that Professor Graham Stanton should accuse *The Times* (letter, December 29) of having been "taken in" by me.

My paper makes it clear that the date of the Magdalen papyrus has not been seriously analysed since 1953, and that even then the date suggested by its first editor — the late second century — meant a shift of some 150 years. Soon after its discovery in 1901, the papyrologist Arthur Hunt had dated it to the third or even fourth century, merely because it is part of a codex, a form which, in those early days of papyrology, was presumed to be "late".

Simply put, methods and knowledge develop. By 1953, the late second century seemed to be a "safe" date. In the mid-60s, the great Herbert Hunger of Vienna taught us to sharpen our tools and reconsider the datings of classical papyri on the basis of improved comparative methods and a wider range of dated and datable papyri. More often than not, the result is a considerable redating to earlier periods. Thus, any attempt to reconsider the date of the Magdalen papyrus is a necessary exercise in the application of papyrology.

That papyrus, on its own, cannot answer questions of Gospel origins or authenticity. I am, however, astonished that Professor Stanton seems to think that my arguments in favour of a very early date of Matthew's Gospel "*do not inspire confidence*". British scholars such as John A. T. Robinson, Donald Guthrie, John Wenham, Bernard Orchard, R. C. Butler, and many others, have, for different reasons, argued in favour of dates prior to AD70 for the Matthew Gospel — some of them as early as the mid-40s.

Graham Stanton confuses matters by drawing the disputed and completely unrelated fragment from Mark's Gospel found in Cave 7 at Qumran into this debate. My own book on the subject — not translated, as Stanton claims, but written in English — was based on papers published in specialist journals. What the Spanish papyrologist José O'Callaghan, the man who first identified the fragment in 1972, saw and suggested was indeed rejected by many New Testament critics.

However, a growing number of papyrologists, among them the honorary president of the International Papyrologists' Association, Professoressa Orsolina Montevecchi, have, over the past few years, corroborated and substantiated the identification of the Qumran papyrus with a passage from Mark as "absolutely certain".

Yours faithfully,
CARSTEN PETER THIEDE
(Director),
Institut für Wissenschaftstheoretische Grundlagenforschung,
Busdorfwall 16,
33098 Paderborn, Germany.
December 29.

From Dr Joseph Spooner

Sir, Like Professor Stanton, I too was somewhat surprised that *The Times* should accept Dr Carsten Thiede's arguments so uncritically. It is exceptionally difficult to date a papyrus on the evidence of the script alone. While the script in the fragments may look early to some eyes, some features of it may be found in hands of the third century: literary hands in papyri change very slowly indeed.

In dating the fragment to the middle of the first century AD, Dr Thiede has simultaneously made another claim. The fragments are of a leaf of a codex (book), and the very earliest codices from Graeco-Roman Egypt date to the end of the second and beginning of the third century AD. A substantial proportion of the earliest examples are Christian texts, and logic places the Matthew fragments with these.

To give the fragments a date in the middle of the first century is to make them the earliest book fragments by 150 years — a massive claim.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH SPOONER,
22 Murray Road, Wimbledon, SW19.
December 29.

From Mr David Gardam, QC

Sir, Professor Stanton tell us three times that Dr Carsten Thiede is wrong. Must what the professor tells us three times be true? Until he deigns to answer Dr Thiede's argument — which was, as reported by you, very simple, clear and easy to understand — the suspicion must remain for some of us that it may be the professor and his fellow scholars who have not noticed a conclusive piece of evidence.

Why, if the Magdalen fragments are written in a script which went out of use in the middle of the first century AD, have we to accept that they date from the end of the second century, more probably the third?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GARDAM,
Haven House, Sandwich, Kent.
December 29.

From Mr J. Enoch Powell

Sir, Reasons for regarding Matthew's Gospel as earlier then those of Mark or Luke will be found in my recently published *Evolution of the Gospel* (Yale).

However, Greek bookhand changed so slowly between the first and second centuries AD that to date a papyrus fragment on the basis of the writing alone is notoriously difficult. It is here that the weakness of Dr Thiede's thesis will be found to lie. So far as my own knowledge goes, no New Testament papyri have been dated securely before the second century AD.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. ENOCH POWELL,
33 South Eaton Place, SW1.
December 29.

From Mr Michael Kimmitt

Sir, I know little about papyrology, but I can tell you that the page of the Bible reproduced in today's Weekend is not from the Authorised Version. It looks very like the Revised Version of 1881 to me.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL KIMMITT,
47 Elvetham Road, Birmingham 15.
December 24.

India's failure to rescue the Taj

From Mr Nani A. Palkhivala

Sir, You have done a signal service to India by publishing Bernard Levin's article of December 20 on the Taj Mahal, "A monumental problem" [see also letters, December 26]. I cannot easily bring to the surface of my mind any country which cares less for its heritage than India. Of all civilised nations on earth, India takes the palm for cultural illiteracy.

Mr Levin is quite right when he says that India does not deserve the priceless monument. We have done nothing to preserve it and almost everything to destroy it. A "cancer" has struck the Taj's silken white stones — and the Indian Government's response is only to have untrained labour do an inadequate clean-up job and to replace such of the marble which has been so afflicted, but not to root out the cause of the problem.

The Supreme Court of India has done more than the executive of the country to preserve the Taj Mahal. That court had issued an injunction to shut down the offending industries — the cause of the polluting and corrosive emissions and effluents which are responsible for the sorry state of the Taj Mahal. But so much is happening in our country, day after day, that hardly a handful of people recall that the Supreme Court had more than once to issue a contempt notice against the mercenary vandals who did not obey the court's injunction to preserve our priceless heritage.

A Nelson's eye is being turned to the industries violating the ban, because votes are more important to politicians than our heritage. My firm conviction is that in world history no country has ever paid so heavy a price for democracy as India has been paying for decades.

The Taj Mahal, along with the caves at Ajanta and Ellora, which are equally wondrous treasures, are labelled "World Heritage Monuments" — which is laughable when one sees the cavalier manner in which the Indian Government treats these masterpieces. The irony of it will be when finally Mr Levin's words come true and the world comes to the rescue of these marvels which, neglected and undeserved by India, are indeed the world's heritage.

Yours faithfully,
NANI A. PALKHIVALA,
Commonwealth,
181 Backbay Reclamation,
Bombay 400 020, India.
December 27.

Ding dong merrily

From the President of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Sir, Simon Jenkins's interesting article on bells and bellringing (December 24) unfortunately made the language seem more arcane than it really is when he said that "For no apparent reason, five bells is a double, seven bells a triple, 11 a cinque".

A basic rule in the construction of change-ringing methods is that no bell's position in the sequence is altered by more than one place at a time, so methods are constructed by changing the positions within pairs of bells.

If five bells are being rung, no more than two pairs can be swapped over — hence changes on five bells are known as doubles; on seven bells, three pairs can be changed (hence triples); on nine bells, four pairs (hence caters); and on 11 bells, five changing pairs gives cinques.

Of course, if Mr Jenkins had asked why changes on four bells give Minimus, six bells Minor, eight bells Major, ten bells Royal and 12 bells Maximus...

Yours, loud and clear,
RON JOHNSTON, President,
The Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers,
Lakeside House, Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester, Essex.
December 30.

'Whinge' on the poor

From Mr James S. Woodhouse

Sir, The Conservative MP David Wilshire is reported (December 26) to have described the Archbishop of Canterbury's references to the poor and the homeless as "whingeing". If this represents the Government's view, one cannot be surprised at its continuing loss of public esteem.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES WOODHOUSE,
Welcome Cottage,
Wiveton, Holt, Norfolk.

Child support changes

From the Under Secretary of State for Social Security

Sir, Mr Peter Jones (letter, December 29) is mistaken in his belief that the recent announcement by the Child Support Agency to defer the taking on of some income support cases means that mothers are being "abandoned" without any opportunity to pursue their claims.

The cases concerned will be those where parents with care have failed to return maintenance application forms which were issued over six months ago. In addition the agency will defer taking on cases where parents with care have been on income support continuously since April 1993 and have not asked the agency to take them on. However, the agency will generally take on any of these cases if the parent with care asks it to pursue his or her application.

The agency is continuing to deal with all new applications, including those from people making new benefit claims. It is also continuing to deal with all cases where the parent with care has provided information about the absent parent. To enable staff to deal more effectively with these cases, the agency has taken the decision temporarily to suspend action on the cases described above.

The agency will recommence its intake of existing income support cases once it is ready to deal with them promptly and at a high standard.

Yours faithfully,
ALISTAIR BURT,
Department of Social Security,
Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, SW1.
December 30.

From Mrs B. J. Carmichael

Sir, I would like it to be known that, entirely due to the efforts of the now much maligned CSA, my daughter has had her weekly maintenance raised to £62, which is a vast improvement on the £7.50 she has been receiving for the last 15 years.

Yours faithfully,
B. J. CARMICHAEL,
7 South Stack Road,
Holyhead, Gwynedd.

Red squirrels

From Mr Colin Shanks

Sir, I can assure Lynne Greenwood ("Bright-eyed, bushy-tailed and in danger", Weekend, December 17) that there are at least two further sites in southern England where the red squirrel can be found.

These are Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, and the Isle of Wight. On the latter, the Forest Enterprise, part of the Forestry Commission, is encouraging the red squirrel by providing feeding hoppers and a variety of tree species when we replant, and by leaving mature trees for seed as a food source for our endangered acrobats.

Yours etc,
COLIN SHANKS
(District Forester, Isle of Wight),
Forestry Commission,
Parkhurst Forest,
Newport, Isle of Wight.

Scoops of long ago

From Mrs Anne M. Sebba

Sir, When Frances, Viscountess de Peyronnet, found herself besieged in Paris in 1871 and began sending news to *The Times* ("Secret dispatches from Paris by balloon", December 22) she had a female rival, Mrs Emily Crawford of the *Daily News*, who had already been working as a Paris correspondent for some time.

When the beseiged city was overwhelmed by a dreadful cholera epidemic, Mrs Crawford was often to be found doing the rounds of Paris hospitals in her search for news. But her most famous scoop was on March 23, 1871 when the communards seized control and she made her way, alone, at night, through the barricades and obtained an interview with the communard leaders as they sat in council.

She went on to cover the Versailles conference in May 1871, sitting from seven in the morning until midnight in front of the *loge grille* to which she had been admitted by special favour. She was allowed neither to move nor to take any notes, but she had a remarkable memory and she sat up all night writing and sent her dispatch to London on the first mail.

Hers was the first full account of the debate and defeat of the French Government to reach the English press. Meanwhile her husband and other correspondents, unable to gain admittance, could only mingle with the crowd and write "colour" pieces about the state of popular feeling.

Yours sincerely,
ANNE M. SEBBA,
9 Pembroke Villas,
The Green, Richmond, Surrey.
December 22.

Whither cock robin?

From Ms Norah Errock

Sir, This year I have received many more cards depicting cats than robins, the former looking fatter than usual. Is this significant?

Yours faithfully,
NORAH ERROCK,
19 Balmoral Road,
Worcester Park, Surrey.
December 29.

Winds of change

From Mr Ronald J. Davies

Sir, Eggs packed in boxes of ten are beginning to creep into our local supermarket. Is this an attempt to delete the word "dozen" from our language? What happens if you want half-a-dozen?

Again, for years I have purchased stock-size trousers with an inside leg of 29 inches. Suddenly, in a number of local shops, this has become 29.5 inches. What am I to do? The chances of my growing any more at 63 are really quite slender.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD J. DAVIES,
106 Princes Road,
Buckhurst Hill, Essex.
January 1.

Road-building policy

From the Chief Executive of Newbury District Council

Sir, Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, has announced that work on the Newbury bypass should be delayed whilst further consideration is given to the proposed route [report, later editions, December 20; letter, December 24]. He told the House of Commons yesterday that he reached his decision after a private visit to Newbury. Not only was his visit private, his thought processes clearly were as well, if recent statements by John Watts, Minister for Railways and Roads, and Lawrie Haynes, Chief Executive of the Highways Agency, are anything to go by.

On October 31, John Watts wrote in a letter to the Newbury Bypass Supporters Association: "I have experienced for myself the awful congestion in Newbury and ... I can see no grounds for further delaying this much needed scheme."

Lawrie Haynes on November 1 echoed the thought in a letter to the leader of Newbury District Council: "As regards the recent campaign against the scheme, you may be assured that ... the Secretary of State can see no grounds for delaying the bypass."

Perhaps Dr Mawhinney could explain what factors persuaded him to change his mind. And will he come publicly to Newbury to meet with representatives of the business community, local groups and the local authority to discuss the range of issues which his statement so neatly sidesteps?

Yours sincerely,
P. E. McMAHON, Chief Executive,
Newbury District Council,
Council Offices, Market Street,
Newbury, Berkshire.
December 20.

From Mr Colin S. Jones

Sir, The Standing Advisory Committee on Trunk Road Assessment (Sactra) offers us a valuable insight in suggesting that new roads generate new traffic. It is a pity that the railway-builders a century and a half ago did not refrain from laying down new railway lines for fear that they might generate new economic activity. Or indeed the canal builders in the 18th century.

Come to think of it, it is a pity that the same insight was not shared by electronic engineers, chemists, pharmaceutical scientists, steel-makers, oil prospectors, or indeed the explorers of the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN JONES,
30 Gloucester Circus,
Greenwich, SE10.
December 20.

From Mr Colin P. West

Sir, The obvious solution to the environmental problems caused by excessive usage of the car is the motor cycle or moped — an underrated, often despised form of transport that is more fuel-efficient than the car, less stressful to use and consumes only 12 per cent of the metal and plastic in a car.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN P. WEST,
9 Church Gardens, Ealing, W5.
December 20.

Non-stick trousers

From Mr T. L. Nash

Sir, As the curry and spaghetti slide off your Teflon trousers (report, December 30), may I suggest a style without turnups.

Yours,
TIM NASH (Director),
Geo Heaphy & Sons Ltd,
(Tailors and outfitters),
4 Westgate House,
Market Street, Warwick.
December 30.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

هكذا في الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 1: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning. The Bishop of Norwich preached the Sermon.

Birthdays today

Mr David Bailey, photographer, 57; Mr N.H. Baring, chairman, Commercial Union Assurance, 61; Sir Richard Bayliss, former Physician to The Queen, 78; Mr Leopold Brook, former chairman, Simon Engineering, 83; Mr Christopher Campbell, vice-chairman, British Rail, 59; the Duke of Devonshire, 75; Professor Sir Kingsley Dunham, geologist, 85; Mr Walter Harrison, former MP, 74; Miss Hilary Heilbron, QC, 46; Sir Michael Hirst, former MP, 49; Mr Doug McAvoy, trade *unionist*, 56; Mr Piers Merchant, MP, 44; Lord Nelson of Stafford, 78; Sir David Pattullo, governor and group chief executive, Bank of Scotland, 57; Sir Charles Reece, former group research and technology director, ICI, 68; Mr Edmund de Rothschild, former chairman, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 79; the Earl of St Germans, 54; Air Marshal Sir Ernest Sidey, 82; Sir Keith Thomas, president, British Academy, 62; Sir Michael Tippett, OM, CH, composer, 90; Dame Rachel Waterhouse, former chairman, Consumers' Association, 72; the Right Rev Kenneth Woollcombe, former Bishop of Oxford, 71.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Yalden, poet, Oxford, 1669; James Wolfe, general and conqueror of Quebec, Westerham, Kent, 1727; Gilbert Murray, scholar, Sydney, New South Wales, 1866; Count Folke Bernadotte, UN mediator, Stockholm, 1895.

DEATHS: Ovid, poet, Tomi, on the Black Sea, 17AD; Johann Kaspar Lavater, physiognomist and poet, Zurich, 1801; Fabian Bellingshausen, Polar explorer, Russia, 1852; Alexander William Kinglake, historian of the Crimean War, London, 1891.

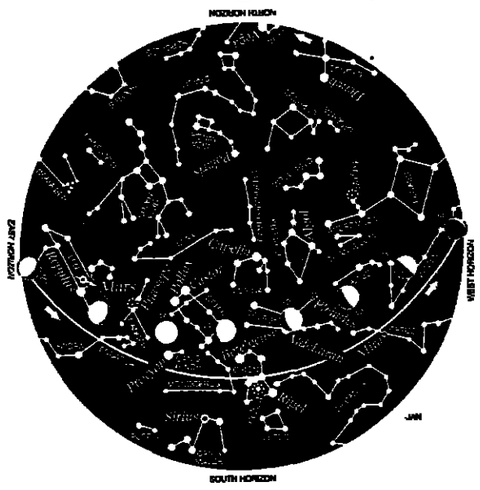
Sir George Biddell Airy, Astronomer Royal 1836-81, Alnwick, Northumberland, 1892; Leon Philippe Teisserenc de Bort, meteorologist, Cannes, 1913; Sir Edward Tyler, anthropologist, Wellington, Somerset, 1917; Eleanor *Rathbone, social reformer*, London, 1946.

The Académie Française was founded by Cardinal Richelieu, 1635.

Sir Joshua Reynolds became the first president of the Royal Academy, which opened this day, 1769.

Sixty six people were killed when a barrier collapsed at Ibrox Park football ground, Glasgow, 1971.

The night sky



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time.

At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre.

Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.


TIM CLIFF

Jacqueline Witt, the housing adviser, with Duane Cummings, one of the housing association's residents

Parishioners act to help homeless

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE TIMES COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE AWARDS

THE old market town of Shepton Mallet, in Somerset, which had its fortunes founded on the wool trade, is not the most obvious place to expect to find people sleeping rough on the streets. But for all its cosy, prosperous image, the West Country has experienced recession, unemployment and resulting social problems, which include the growth of jobless young people with nowhere to live.

In 1988, parishioners from the Church of St Peter and St Paul formed a social action group and chose homelessness as its first target. Three years later the Shepton Housing Association was incorporated as a provident association. It is affiliated to the English Churches Housing Group and consequently is eligible for grants from Mendip District Council as well as the Bath and Wells diocesan development fund.

The group already had its eye on a large semi-detached *Edwardian house, near* the centre of the town, which had belonged to a dentist's widow, Grace Harris, who had expressed the hope that after her death it might be used for caritable purposes.

With the aid of grants the association was able to buy the property for £70,000 and convert it into a hostel for up to 12 young men and women.

The staff, comprising a housekeeper and a part-time housing adviser, were engaged in the early summer of 1992 and the first tenant arrived in August of that year. "We have been virtually full ever since," Bill Tower, the association's chairman, said.

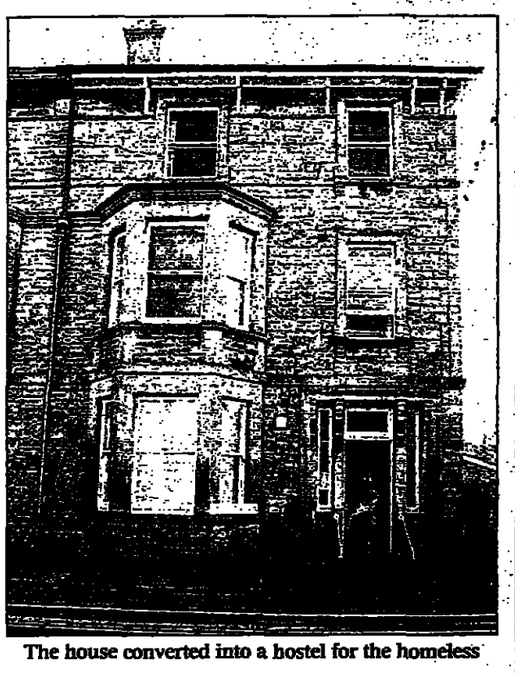
Each of the six single and three double bedsitting rooms is equipped with a microwave cooker and a refrigerator; bathrooms and laundry facilities are shared. The tenants, many of whom have never been away from home before, are not only advised on job opportunities and how to apply for work, but are also taught "living skills" such as cooking and how to wash and iron their own clothes.

"We see it as a stage in the progress towards independence," Mr Tower said. "We would like to think that some people at a future stage in their lives will be able to look back on their stay here and say, 'That set me on the right path'."

Tenants are normally allowed to stay for six months, by which time most have found permanent accommodation. They range in age from 16 to 25 and include students, job-seekers and people employed on low wages. The last-named, ironically, present some of the biggest difficulties in that they do not qualify for benefits and consequently find it more difficult than the unemployed to pay the rent.

The project so far has cost some £240,000, of which £125,000 has come from the council, £45,000 from charitable trusts and £10,000 from the diocesan fund. The balance has been raised by donations and by fund-raising events. The association is now seeking a further £42,000 to expand its cramped office and to create a new assembly and training room.

Shepton Housing Association has won one of the two Chartwell Land/HACT Awards for Housing and Homelessness in the 1994 Community Enterprise Awards sponsored by The Times *and Touche Ross and organised by Business in the Community. The awards will be presented by the Prince of Wales in Manchester on February 8.*



The house converted into a hostel for the homeless

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.A. Burns and Miss E.R. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr Peter Burns, of Prestbury, Cheshire, and the late Mrs Norah Burns, and Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Campbell, of Sandwich, Kent.

Major M.H.R. d'Apice and Miss M.A. Wright
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Major and Mrs R.H. d'Apice, of Oxfordshire, and Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Wright, of Leicester.

Mr A.C.W. Frankel and Miss K.L. Stephenson
The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mr M.R. Frankel, of Rozel, St Martin, Jersey and the late Mrs G.M. Frankel, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R.G. Stephenson, of Longtown, Herefordshire.

Mr W.R.D. Franks and Miss H.S. Graham
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mrs Sally Everett, of Kington Langley, Wiltshire, and the late Mr Peter Franks, and stepson of Mr Tom Everett, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Graham, of Coleraine, Co Londonderry.

Mr P.M.R. Hedley and Miss N.C.B. Tuna
The engagement is announced between Miles, elder son of Major and Mrs Peter Hedley, of Wareham, Dorset, and Natasha, only daughter of Mr Rui Tuna, of Johannesburg, and Mrs Kathleen Tuna, of Cape Town.

Mr D.M. Keegan and Miss S.J. Taylor
The engagement is announced between Dermot Michael, son of the late Mr Brian Barry Keegan and of Mrs Betty Jennings, of Harrogate, and Sarah Jessica, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Taylor, of Broad Hinton, Wiltshire.

Mr D.J. Owen and Miss E.N. Walmsley
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of the late Mr Trevor Owen and of Lady Middleton, and stepson of Sir Peter Middleton, of Kensington, London, and Emma, elder daughter of Vice-Admiral and Mrs Robert Walmsley, of Langley, Kent.

Mr M.A. Liberson and Miss C.J.S. Banton
The engagement is announced between Martyn, elder son of Mr Michael Liberson, of Stone, Staffordshire and the late Mrs Anita Liberson, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Banton, of Guildford, Surrey.

Mr A.G. McCormack and Miss A.H. Thompson
The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr and Mrs McCormack, of Pettigo, Co Donegal and Adèle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thompson, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

Mr T.C. Taylor and Miss L.C. Howlett
The engagement is announced between Timothy Charles, younger son of Mr and Mrs A.F. Taylor, of Henlow, Bedfordshire, and Lucy Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G.C. *Howlett, of Sharnbrook*, Bedfordshire.

Marriages

Mr T.W. Seymour and Miss C.J. Agar
The marriage took place on December 31, 1994, at St Martin's Parish Church, Jersey, between Mr Timothy William Seymour, elder son of Mr and Mrs Lawrence Seymour, of Jersey, and Miss Charlotte Joanna Agar, younger daughter of Mrs Valerie Agar, of Waltham, Lincolnshire. The Rev Lawrence Turner officiated.

Mr S.C.N. Swift and Miss V.C.A.H. Rock
The marriage took place on Friday, December 16, 1994, at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, London, of Mr Stephen Swift, second son of Dr and Mrs Graham Swift, of Glympton, Oxfordshire, to Miss Victoria Rock, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Rock, of Pimlico, London. The Reverend Anthony Winter officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Catherine Heseltine, Tabitha Luxmoore Styles, Alice Gerth, William Balston and Edward Swift. Mr Baer Pettit was best man.

A reception was held in the Great Hall of St Bartholomew's Hospital and the honeymoon was spent in Kenya.

University news

Queen's University of Belfast
Grants
Research projects at Queen's University have won funding worth more than £3 million.

The funding is for studies in the university's Faculties of Agriculture and Food Science, Science, Medicine, Engineering, Arts and Economics and Social Sciences, as well as for research in the Biotechnology Centre for Animal and Plant Health.

The largest single grant £660,511 from the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council - has been awarded to a team in the School of Mathematics and Physics at Queen's for the university's astrophysics research programme from 1994 to 1998.

The funding also includes awards totalling £452,388 to the School of Chemistry, £415,921 to the School of Mechanical and Process Engineering, £316,614 to the School of Electrical Engineering and *Computer Science and* £366,787 to the School of Clinical Medicine.

Among medical research projects to win funding are studies on diabetes, teenage mothers, arthritis, breast and colorectal cancer.

Appointments:
Director of the Health and Health Care Research Unit - Dr James Quinn Jamison
Chair in Sociology - Dr Steven Yearley, previously Professor in Sociology at the University of Ulster, and formerly a Reader at Queen's.
Senior lectureship/consultant's post in Ophthalmology - Giuliana Silvestri
Senior lectureship/consultant's post in Orthodontics - Donald John Burden
Senior lectureship/consultant's post in Periodontics - Brian Hugh Mullally
Senior lectureship/consultant's post in Obstetrics and Gynaecology - Dr Neil McClure
Lectureship in Nursing (Philosophy/Ethics) - Ann Marie Begley
Lectureship in Midwifery - Eileen Josephine Pollock
Lectureships in Nursing (General/Adult) - Marlene Katherine Sinclair; Kathleen Rowe
Lectureship in Geosciences - Nicholas James Tate
Lectureship in Biometrics - Dr Samuel David Lennox
Lectureship in the Institute of Irish Studies - Dr Valerie Ann Hall
Lectureship in Accounting - Ronan Gerald Powell
Lectureship in Philosophy (applied ethics) - John Frederick Catherwood
Lectureship in Modern Irish History - Dr David Hayton
Temporary lectureship in Politics - Kirsten Elizabeth Schulze
Temporary lectureships in Speech and Language Processing (School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) - Dr Ji Ming, Dr Peter Lawrence O'Boyle.

Welsh house wins reprieve

PROTESTERS have obtained a High Court injunction to halt the demolition, due to start tomorrow, of one of the oldest buildings in the walled city of Caernarvon, North Wales.

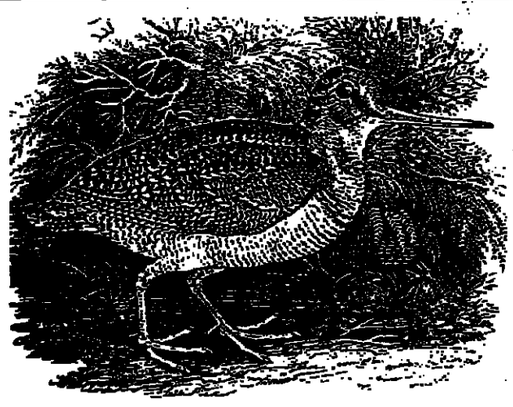
The house, in Palace Street, is listed Grade II and stands within an area designated by Unesco as a World Heritage site. Last month *The Times* published letters from conservation bodies calling for a reprieve pending a public enquiry. The injunction opens the way to a judicial review.

Nature notes

ON COLD days, birds look much larger because they puff out their feathers to keep warm. A black carrion crow standing in a frosty field can seem for a moment as large as a raven. Wood pigeons sit in the treetops presenting their rosy breasts to the low sun: they absorb maximum warmth in this position, and are not blinded by the sun since their eyes are on either side of their heads.

Woodcock sit quietly in the daytime under woodland brambles: they have bulging eyes very high on the sides of their heads and can probably see all round them and above them as well. At night, they seek marshes and swamps to probe in with their long beaks, and in severe frost may be forced to fly to the sea to feed.

Some Japanese autumn cherries are still flecked with pink blossom: they will have a second flowering period in the spring. The fern-like leaves of *next year's cow parsley are* already three or four inches high, and remain stubbornly erect through the frosty nights. Rosettes of yellow and grey lichen, which flourish in winter, are conspicuous on many tree trunks. **DJM**



The woodcock's bulging eyes give it all-round vision

Latest wills

Recent estates include (net before tax):

Mr Clive Whittaker **Meadowcroft**, of Mobberley, Cheshire £1,092,885

Mrs Jean Elvira Meuross **Osborne**, of Heathfield, East Sussex £976,573

Marion **Swingler**, of Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire £785,500

Mrs Elsie Maud **Barker**, of Shoeburyness, Essex £796,455

Mr Leslie Isadore **Don**, of Prestwich, Greater Manchester £1,823,268

Mrs Mary Rebecca **Froggatt**, of Kingswinford, West Midlands £831,668

Mrs Edythe Cynthia **Holdsworth**, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire £955,174

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Your instruction is wonderful: therefore I gladly keep it. Your word is revealed, and all is light; it gives understanding even to the unthought. Psalm 119 : 129, 130 (REB)

BIRTHS

REAUMONT - To Christopher and Sarah, a daughter, Sibyl Mimosa on 21st December 1994 at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, Hammersmith.

DHALLU - On 2nd December at Leighton Hospital to Subhinder and Nirmal a son Navjosh, a brother for Joati, Preeti, Reeti and Geeti.

EVANS - On 26th December to Elizabeth (née Huntley) and David, a daughter Lorna.

FELGATE - On December 30th to Kristina (née Pospatch) and Anthony, a son, Max Michael Barclay.

HILL - On Christmas Day to Donna (née Lowe) and Adrian, a son Dominic Edward, a brother for Olivia. A perfect Christmas present.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
To place your Birth, Marriage or Death Notices the office will be open today as follows:
Monday 2nd January: 9.30am - 2.00pm.
Telephone 0374 617843
where our staff will be available to take your call.

BIRTHS

LAINSFORD - On December 19th at St James' University Hospital, Leeds, a beautiful daughter, Harriet Laura to Margaret (née Marsh) and Mark.

LOMAX - On December 19th, to Deborah (née Payne) and Peter, a son, Daniel Thomas.

SOUTH - On 28th December 1994 in St George's Hospital, Tooting, to Emma (née Lloyd) and Martin, a beloved daughter Polly Emily.

DEATHS

BAILEY - Helen, Margaret, to her countless friends, dearly loved mother of Christopher, Oliver, Belinda and the late Veronica, died peacefully at Mount Alvernia, Guildford, on December 28th 1994, a few days before her 90th birthday. Funeral 2.30 pm Friday 6th January at St John's Parish Church, Wonersh.

DEATHS

BUCHANAN - Jean. Just before Christmas. Aged 81. Cremation Oxford Crematorium, 2:30, Monday 9 January.

FIELDEN - On 21st December peacefully at Eaton Road, Chester, Gerald Robert aged 86 years.

GOODRICKE - Joyce on 27th December peacefully at Clare House Nursing Home. Funeral Friday 6th January, 12 noon at Burvale Cemetery, Burwood Road, Hersham.

HARKER - Barbara, on December 26th 1994, peacefully in Tywyn Hospital in her 84th year, of Mosshead, Aberdovey and Greenfield, Pen-y-bont. Ex headmistress of Huddersfield High School and previously head of science at Allerton High School. Sadly missed by her many friends especially Mary Ambler, Nora and Eric Dale and family and Brenda and Hugh Jenkins. Service at St Tecla Church, Llandegley, Wednesday January 4th at 1:30 pm followed by private cremation at Aberystwyth. Family flowers only but donations in memory for Cancer Research may be sent to Wyn Jones, Funeral Director, Aberdovey LL35 0PF. Tel: 0654 767298.

HART - On 27th December Walter Louis D'Arcy Hart, solicitor, aged 97, Brother of Philip, brother-in-law of Ruth, uncle of Oliver, Peter, Jill and Anne. Funeral Golders Green Crematorium on Thursday 12th January at 1:30 pm.

DEATHS

MYERS - On December 30th 1994, peacefully at home, Rita, aged 90, wife of the late Jack B. Myers, beloved mother of Jill, dear mother-in-law of Michael Salmon, adored grandmother of Paul, Caroline and Andrew, loving great-grandmother to Emma, Sophie, Charles, Daniel and Toby. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at 11:30 am on Tuesday 3rd January 1995.

NEWMAN - On Wednesday December 28th 1994, after a brief illness, Arnold Rudolph, Captain RN retired, OBE, in his 90th year. Devoted husband of the late Cara May and much loved father of Sarah. Funeral service at Cambridge Crematorium on Thursday January 5th at 10:45 am. No flowers please but donations to any Naval Charity.

WIGZELL - Edna Mary, peacefully at Polsham on December 28th. Dearly loved wife of Harry, (deceased) and much loved mother of John, Peter and Ann. Donations to Alzheimer's Disease Society rather than flowers please.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

LEARSEE L. GERALD - Remembering his birthday with abiding love today and every day. Shendagh, Stephen, Robin, Peter

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

VENNING-BARKER - On January 2nd, 1945, at St Barnabas, Heaton, Bradford, Dr Geoffrey Venning married Dr Ruth Barker, now in High Wycombe.

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Forthcoming marriages

OBITUARIES

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR EDMUND HUDLESTON

Air Chief Marshal Sir Edmund Hudleston, GCB, CBE, former Commander of Allied Air Forces in Central Europe, died on December 14 aged 85. He was born on December 30, 1908.



TEDDY Hudleston was one of the most gifted staff officers of his generation. Indeed, he was almost too efficient for his own good, being stuck behind a desk at staff headquarters instead of flying against the enemy as he wished.

But although he never made the newspaper headlines, he won international recognition and fast promotion. Four times he was mentioned in dispatches, once on India's North West Frontier in the 1930s and three times during the Second World War.

He made a lasting impression on General Eisenhower at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe (Shape), was rushed to Cyprus to head the air staff during the Suez crisis and then had to cope with the 1957 Defence White Paper which scrapped so many of Britain's manned fighter squadrons.

Perhaps Hudleston's most perplexing task, however, had more to do with the royal ear than the Royal Air Force. When George VI was visiting wartime troops in Italy, Hudleston was detailed to provide not only food fit for a king but some music to entertain him after dinner. The quiet, unassuming, unflappable young staff officer succeeded in scraping together a motley ensemble of airmen who could play some kind of musical instrument — and their product was even more successful than he had hoped.

The "orchestra" scored a direct hit with "Lili Marlene", which so struck the monarch that he joined in the chorus and demanded a sequence of encores before retiring.

Yet Hudleston's early ambition had been to fly. He was born Edmund Cuthbert Hudleston in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, son of the Archdeacon of Perth. But his father had emigrated from Cumberland, where the family still has its roots. From Guildford School, Western Australia, Hudleston won a place at Cranwell.

After serving with a fighter squadron based in Kent, Hudleston was sent to the Central Flying School where he qualified as an instructor, then went back to Cranwell where he helped train a number of those who were later to distinguish themselves in the Battle of Britain.

There followed three years in India, then a year at Staff College, after which he had hoped for the command of a squadron. Instead, he found himself on a training mission in Turkey, passing on his expertise to Turkish pilots.

The pattern of his career had already been set. In 1941 he went to Cairo on the Middle East Headquarters staff, then followed the Allies' trail to Sicily and Italy. He was one of those cleared to read the top-secret Ultra signals from Bletchley Park, where scientists had cracked the German codes. But this had its disadvantages as far as Hudleston was concerned since it meant that he was held back from flying duties. The Air Ministry could not run the risk of his being captured by the enemy with such sensitive information in his head.

Hudleston's first wartime command came in 1944 when, with the rank of air vice-marshal he was given charge of 84 Group, part of the 2nd Tactical Air Force. His group's task was that of supporting the Canadian 1st Army in Holland. Some consider that this was in many ways his finest hour. Completely free of bombast or stuffiness, he acted with quiet authority, encouraging those in the frontline to take operational decisions, thereby promoting flexibility and initiative.

He took great pride in his selection after the war as head of the British military delegation to the Western European Union, which helped establish his reputation on the Continent. Then after a posting as air office commanding (AOC) No 1 Group in Bomber Command, he was sent to Paris as deputy chief of staff at the newly-formed Shape. Two years later he took over No 3 Group, Bomber Command, with the job of introducing the first aircraft of the V-bomber force carrying Britain's nuclear deterrent.

In 1956 he was chief RAF instructor at the Imperial Defence College when he was ordered by the Air Ministry to pack his bags for Cyprus, to head the air staff there during the Suez operation. But the five years which were to follow as Vice-Chief of the Air Staff from 1957 onwards were almost as testing, given the impact on the RAF of Duncan Sandys's controversial 1957 White Paper. This not only announced the ending of National Service but declared that surface-to-air missiles would henceforth shoulder much of the burden of air defence. Hudleston had to cope not only with operational changes but a rash of redundancies and subsequent loss of morale.

He was Commander-in-Chief Transport Command 1962-63, then crossed the Channel once more for his final job as Commander, Allied Air Forces Central Europe, 1964-67, which for a period he held in tandem with the post of Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe.

In retirement he was, from 1971 to 1979 a director of Pilkington Brothers (Optical Division).

A tall, well-liked, humorous man, Teddy Hudleston was decorated by the United States, The Netherlands, France and Belgium after the war. But he always attributed his success to his prowess at cricket and the contacts he made while playing for the RAF. A supremely fit man, he lost his sight in the last few years.

Teddy Hudleston's Australian wife Nancye died in 1980 and he subsequently married a widow, Brenda Witherington. She survives him, together with a son and daughter from his first marriage.

MITKO CALOVSKI

Mitko Calovski, Yugoslav Ambassador to Britain, 1985-89, died in London on Christmas Day aged 64. He was born in Bitola, Macedonia, on April 3, 1930.



A MACEDONIAN by birth, a Yugoslav in his heart, Mitko Calovski was one of the generation whose entire life, from adolescence to the day Yugoslavia finally and irretrievably broke up was identified with the Titoist postwar regime to which he served with distinction as a diplomat.

Born into a prosperous family he was only 11 when the old monarchist Yugoslavia was invaded, dismembered and divided between the neighbouring invading Balkan states. But from early on his family sided with the resistance movement and he, still a boy, saw his five older sisters joining the movement.

By the end of the war he, like scores of Macedonians for whom only the Tito's Communists held the promise to fulfil Macedonian national aspirations, joined the partisans and from there on continued to serve. He regarded these ideas not only as national but social too.

At the age of 18 he moved to Belgrade where he graduated in politics and diplomacy joining Yugoslavia's foreign service soon afterwards to become first the Consul-General in Toronto in 1967 and, some years later, Ambassador to Canada.

On return to his country he headed the planning and analysis department in Yugoslavia's foreign ministry and, before his appointment as Ambasssador in the UK in 1985 headed the federal ministry of information.

In 1985, when he came to London, the economic crisis was already shaking Yugoslavia's foundations and he applied all his skills and energy, as well as his undoubted powers of persuasion, to secure Western financial backing.

Many years later, when Yugoslavia had already collapsed, he often complained of the West's lack of understanding and wondered whether the break-up and the tragic consequences would have been avoided had there been more willingness on the part of the Western countries to help.

By the time he left his post in 1989, Slobodan Milosevic was already firmly in power in Serbia, nationalism in Serbia was unleashed and the Yugoslav crisis was heading towards its tragic end.

Calovski, like many of his countrymen, spent the last three years in London. Here he used all his energy to help all those in need, especially Bosnian refugees, and maintained personal friendships with all the scattered former Yugoslavs who, disagreeing with a regime in their own country which proclaimed independence, found refuge here.

He knew that Yugoslavia's reintegration was impossible in the near future. But he saw a long-term chance within a wider European framework. However, he was a realist. He knew that this could be only a far away dream.

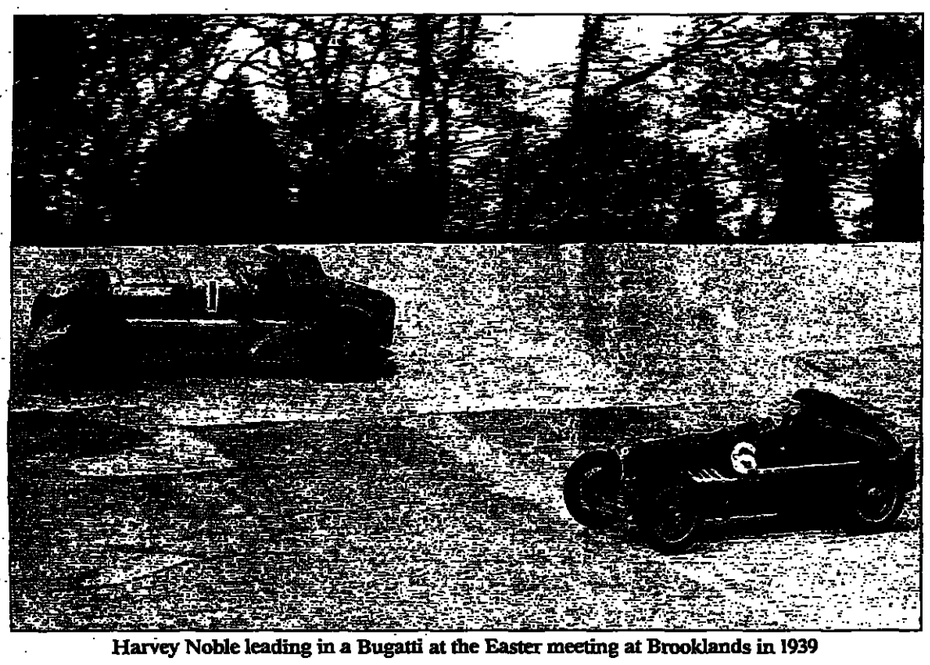
"I can't simply forget my entire life, for forty years of which I have firmly believed in an idea which in my lifetime has collapsed," he told friends only the day before he suddenly died.

He used all the personal influence, acquired while he served in this country as Yugoslav Ambassador, to assist his native Macedonia. He felt deeply for Macedonia's plight but was equally critical of the errors committed.

He leaves a widow, Ivana, and a son and daughter.

GEORGE HARVEY NOBLE

George Harvey Noble, motor racing driver, died on December 27 aged 84. He was born on November 25, 1910.



Harvey Noble leading in a Bugatti at the Easter meeting at Brooklands in 1939

RACING cars of all sizes — from a very fast 750cc MG single-seater to the difficult 6½-litre Bentley-Jackson — George Harvey Noble was one of the best known drivers at the Brooklands Motor Course at Weybridge in the active days of the 1930s. He also spent much of his time testing racing cars on the outer-circuit of the famous banked track. So enthusiastic was he that he gave up a successful business and closed his garage to live close to Brooklands.

George Harvey Noble, who was educated at Wellingborough and studied engineering in Brighton, gave up motorcycling at his mother's request and began his motoring career with a Gordon England Austin 7, followed by a 12/50 Alvis. These he drove in speed trials and in typical beginners' events at Brooklands, such as the one-hour High Speed trials.

His racing proper began with a GP Salmson, his first success being to come home second in the Light Car Club's Relay Race in 1932, as a member of an all-Salmson team. After that he sought a faster car and acquired a 2-litre Grand Prix Bugatti with which he gained prizes both on his favoured outer banked circuit and over the Brooklands so-called "Mountain" circuit.

By the mid-1930s Harvey Noble's knowledge of the Brooklands Track was probably as great as anyone's and he joined Robin Jackson, the great tuning expert, in testing his racing cars. These included Jackson's 2-litre Alta, which Harvey Noble raced for him, and a variety of very quick motor cars of many kinds. By now Harvey Noble resided at "The Ship" in Weybridge, and would spend long days testing at the track. He beat the works twin-cam Austin 7s from Longbridge with an MG of the same engine size, setting for all time the class lap record to 122.40 mph, in 1937, as well as winning handicap races in it against much larger cars.

When Peter Aitken took over the exciting *Bimotore* Alfa Romeo from Arthur Dobson — who had brought it from Italy — Harvey Noble did his best to tame it. It was a car which even the ace Nuvolari regarded as dangerous, although taking records with it at over 200mph. Eventually it was deemed too unsuitable for breaking the absolute Brooklands lap record and Harvey Noble assisted Aitken in using one of its engines in the Alfa Aitken. So crowd-pulling had the *Bimotore* been that when it was a non-starter the track authorities put a notice on the Brooklands' entrance gates to this effect, to avoid refunding the race-goers' money.

Among the wide selection of cars Harvey Noble raced were the Bowler-Hofman with Bentley engine, Aitken's 6C Maserati and the big Bentley-Jackson. He was enormously proud of being the last driver to gain a BARC 130 mph badge with the Bentley-Jackson in 1939, just before war closed the track.

After the war Harvey Noble suffered failing health and declining eyesight but he would travel to the modern Millbrooke test track when the old Bentley-Jackson broke records (one of its drivers was Prince Michael of Kent).

A keen member of the Brooklands Society, Harvey Noble was never happier than when he was remembering Brooklands and his friends who drove there with him. He got together a badge of every car he had raced and would discuss all the tricks of getting around the outer circuit at a car's maximum speed.

In recent times he lived with his wife on the South Coast. She and their daughter survive him.

MARY ANN McCALL

Mary Ann McCall, jazz and popular singer, died in Los Angeles on December 14 aged 75. She was born in Philadelphia on May 4, 1919.

THE great disadvantage of Marcy Ann McCall's career was that when she was at her best in the late 1940s, the American Federation of Musicians, led by James C. Petrillo, imposed a ban on recordings in the United States, and her finest work went commercially unrecorded. Fortunately, many of her 1948 radio broadcasts as vocalist with Woody Herman's Orchestra at the Hollywood Palladium survived, proving that her high reputation among fellow musicians, and particularly Herman alumni, was entirely justified.

She had a sweet, clear voice, ideally suited to ballads like "I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good", or her featured duet with Herman: "Swing Low, Sweet Clarinet". Perhaps her most poignant duet with Herman was an ironic couplet squeezed into "Baby I Need You", where to laughter from the band they sang: "A bed needs a pillow/Like we need Petrillo . . ."

By the time the ban ended, and she returned to the studios with Herman in late December 1948, the big band era was drawing to a close, and Herman's "Second Herd" had only one more year of its life left.

Mary Ann McCall started her career dancing and singing with Buddy Morrow's band in her home town. At 20 she went on the road with Tommy Dorsey, before making her debut with Woody Herman's first band in April 1939 with "Big Wig In A Wigwam". This job was a recognition of her quality, since Herman featured Mary Martin and the Andrews Sisters on other discs made at the same time.

She left Herman to sing with Charlie Barnet, before spending four years as a freelance, working with Tommy Reynolds (1941), Barnet again (1944), and joining Lew Gray in California in 1945. The following year she was with Art Kassell in San Diego, before rejoining Herman in September 1946, replacing Frances Wayne. She married Herman's tenor saxophonist Al Cohn, and remained with the band until it broke up in December 1949.

"It was the best white band around in those days," wrote the band's vibes player, Terry Gibbs. "We had Mary Ann McCall — how much better can you do?" The high regard in which she was held among musicians was partly due to the fact that she made several innovative, if relatively obscure, solo sessions while still with Herman, before the AFM ban. These included a 1947 date for arranger Ralph Burns, where she was joined by modern jazz pioneers Howard McGhee and Dexter Gordon.

Her solo career began in earnest at the end of the ban with a session for Discovery, conducted by Phil Moore. She won *Down Beat*'s poll as best band singer the same year, 1949. Apart from rejoining Charlie Ventura in the 1950s for two years (during which they cut *An Evening with Charlie Ventura with Mary Ann McCall* for Norman Granz's Norgram label), she spent the rest of her life as a solo singer, recording with Ernie Wilkins, Teddy Charles and Johnny Richards in the 1950s, before remarrying and settling in Detroit, confining her live appearances to the Michigan area.



Her last return to public singing was in the late 1970s, when she cut several stylish albums with Jake Hanna and Nat Pierce.

RUTH MANSFIELD

Ruth Mansfield, MBE, anaesthetist, died at her home near Haslemere on December 10 aged 92. She was born Ruth Webster in London on August 1, 1902.

RUTH MANSFIELD was Consultant Anaesthetist to the Brompton Hospital for Diseases of the Chest from 1948 to 1967. She was widely respected in the medical profession for her expertise in giving local anaesthetics for the operation of thoracoplasty for pulmonary tuberculosis.

Known to all her colleauges as "Mrs M", she undertook sessions at sanatoria in Surrey and King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, with visits to Sully Hospital near Cardiff.

She co-edited a textbook on thoracic surgical anaesthesia and was the author of several papers on the subject. She took part in the early work on open heart surgery as a colleague of Lord Brock, Sir Clement Price-Thomas and many other well-known surgeons in that field.

Ruth Evelyn Mansfield was married in 1925, the year before she qualified in medicine, and spent the next seven years working for the Red Cross and as clinical assistant at the Belgrave Hospital, while bring up her family of two.

In 1935, she became house anaesthetist at the Westminster Hospital and, inspired by the late Sir Ivan Magill, decided to make her career in anaesthesia.

After working in the Emergency Medical Service during the Second World War at the Mayday Hospital, Croydon, and the Chest Unit at Horton Hospital near Epsom, she was appointed assistant anaesthetist at the Brompton Hospital and became a consultant there in 1948 at the beginning of the National Health Service.

Her wish to help others in less fortunate circumstances led her to work voluntarily in hospitals in Malaysia and Israel and, after her retirement from practice in this county in 1967, she spent ten years at the Christian Medical College Hospital in Vellore in southern India, with only short visits home, introducing anaesthesia for cardiac surgery there. For this work, she received the MBE in 1977.

At the age of 77, she spent two years at the Miraj Medical Centre, Maharashtra.

She and her husband were staunch Nonconformists. Neither of them drank or smoked but they never forced their views on others and were most generous and kindly hosts to their younger colleagues and their families.

Ruth Mansfield enjoyed playing tennis, gardening and swimming, the last two well into her eighties.

She never lost her interest in anaesthesia and, on the day of her death, attended a meeting on the history of anaesthesia at the Royal Society of Medicine and delighted her colleagues with spontaneous recollection of her experience in dental anaesthesia over fifty years ago.

Her husband Leonard died in 1958. She is survived by her son, also a doctor, and her daughter.

Church appointments

The Rev David Boddy, Curate, Peterlee: to be Assistant Priest, Shiney Row (in plurality w. Herrington) and Penshaw (Durham).

The Rev Christine Challenger, Assistant Curate (NSM), Middlesbrough, St Cuthbert: to be Chaplain (part-time NSM), South Tees Community and Mental Health NHS Trust (York).

The Rev Hereward Cooke, Assistant Priest, Norwich St Peter Mancroft, Rural Dean of Norwich East and Acting Senior Industrial Chaplain, Norwich: to be now Senior Industrial Chaplain, remaining Rural Dean of Norwich East and Assistant Priest at Norwich St Peter Mancroft (Norwich).

The Rev Roderick Corke, Assistant, St Martin and [illegible] the Carpe (York).

ter, St Mary's, Walton (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Jacqueline Curtis, Assistant Curate, Bridport Team Ministry: to be Team Vicar, Melbury Team Ministry (Salisbury).

The Rev David Deboys, Assistant Curate, St Mary and St Botolph: Whitton (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich): to be Rector, Toft w. Hardwick and Caldecote (Ely).

The Rev Montague Ellson, Rector, Pulham Market, Pulham St Mary and Starston, and Diocesan Officer for Non-stipendiary Ministry (Norwich): to be also Rural Dean of Redenhall, same diocese.

The Rev Margaret Escritt, Assistant Chaplain at HM Prison, Full Sutton: to be part-time Chaplain at HM Prison, [illegible]

The Right Rev David Evans, General Secretary of the South American Missionary Society, based at Tunbridge Wells: to be also an Assistant Bishop in the diocese of Rochester.

The Rev Edward Ewer (Father Jonathan SSM): to be Diocesan Director of Ordinands (Durham).

The Rev Robin Excell, Rector, Rattlesden, Brettenham and Thorpe Morieux: to be also Priest-in-charge, Hitcham and Little Finborough (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Jonathan Falkner, Rector, South Elmham and the Ilketshall, Flixton, Homersfield and Rumburgh: to be also Rural Dean of Beccles and South Elmham (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Stephen Ferns: to be Priest-in-charge, Norton St Mary (Durham).

The Rev David Finch, Priest-in-charge, Stoke-by-Nayland w. Leavenheath: to be also Priest-in-charge, Polstead (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Canon Michael Fisher, Vicar St Anta and All Saints, Carbis Bay w. St Uni, Leland: to be Vicar, Newquay (Truro).

The Rev Canon Robert Freeman, Vicar, the Martyrs, Leicester: to be also Rural Dean of Christianity South (Leicester).

The Rev Brian Gant, Vicar, Tunbridge Wells King Charles (Rochester): to be Vicar, Wymondham w. Silfield and Spooner Row (Norwich).

The Rev Mark Godson, Team Vicar, Wimborne Minster and Holt St James Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Stalbridge (St Mary) (Salisbury).

A NURSERY CUPBOARD

Toys of Today and Yesterday

After 50 years it is not difficult to recall the look and the smell of the nursery cupboard and to think with some exactness of its contents. There were in it bats and balls (for cricket in a small garden), a candle bull's-eye lantern, greatly treasured in the days before electric torches were invented, glass marbles of considerable beauty, a wooden soapbox intended for carpenter's tools but once chosen by the cat as the repository of her kittens, and materials for such table games as ludo and tiddlywinks. Literature was chiefly represented by a stores catalogue much appreciated for its excellent and varied illustrations. The more essentially feminine toys, the tea set and the dinner set — still used on festival occasions by their owner's grandchildren — lived in the neighbouring doll's house. There were in particular in that cupboard lead soldiers — like the British Army, few but of high quality. These could be made, with some imagination, to march past almost as well as the army, led by Sir Garnet Wolseley, marched past Queen Victoria in Mr Poole's "Myriorama," which came once a year to the Assembly Rooms and offered thrills of which the modern film-goer can know nothing. There were also two brass cannon which one loaded under supervision with black powder, ramming the shot down with a knitting needle; they were unequalled in precision at short range if one held one's breath in applying the pantry taper to the touch-hole. Thoughts of that distant scene came flooding to memory when the writer, confronted with the hideous business of moving, surveyed the belongings of his daughter, who has enough possessions to fill many cupboards, and all of them very precious and on no account meanly to be sorted out while she is away from home. Those belongings must all be moved — the dolls and their beds and their prams, the gramophone, the lantern, the aeroplane, the furry animals of the bear tribe, the books, the paint-boxes that the PRA might envy, and the shop. It was in a warmer clime than that of London that she embarked on the trade of shop-keeping and to such eminence did she rise as shop-keeper that she received a parchment warrant of appointment as supplier of *parfums de luxe* to a kindly Governor, whose military secretary sent it by the trusted hand of a mounted sowar of the bodyguard. It is a shop that must be handed on. Will all these treasures be lovingly recalled in 50 years' time?

ON THIS DAY

January 2 1936

One might add another question to that with which the writer closed. Do the children of today appreciate in the same way the toys they got at Christmas?

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY JANUARY 2 1995

NEWS

Frederick West found dead in cell

■ Frederick West, the Gloucester builder accused of the serial murders of 12 women including two of his own daughters and his first wife, was found hanged in a prison cell.

Officers at Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, discovered West's body at 12.55pm and attempted to revive him. He was pronounced dead half an hour later ..... **Pages 1, 3**

Tragic death brings ambulance reform

■ *The tragic death of a little girl who had to wait nearly an* hour for an ambulance is to bring a big shake-up of London's emergency services. Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, intends to use a report on the death of Nasima Begum, 11, as a catalyst for sweeping reforms of the service aimed at curbing the powers of the unions and overhauling a moribund system of management ..... **Pages 1, 2**

Grozny burns

Forces were still fighting to the death in the burning ruins of Grozny as Russian claimed its troops had surrounded the presidential palace ..... **Pages 1, 7**

Snow hits Britain

Snow, sleet and hail hit much of the country followed by a heavy overnight frost. The freezing temperatures, strong winds and blizzards left drivers facing hazardous conditions ..... **Page 1**

Labour school row

Tony Blair suffered the biggest embarrassment of his leadership when he had to force David Blunkett, his education spokesman, to withdraw a pledge that Labour was considering VAT on private school fees ..... **Page 2**

Women's role

Pope John Paul said that women have a primary role in promoting peace and urged humanity to end conflicts in 1995 ..... **Page 6**

Hogmanay fire

Two people died as choking smoke swept through a Scottish hotel full of Hogmanay visitors. Barefoot guests ran outdoors, into blizzard conditions ..... **Page 5**

View of UDI

Britain regarded Ian Smith as a "*simple-minded bigot*" before the Rhodesian Prime Minister's declaration of independence in 1965, documents released at the Public Record Office show ..... **Page 6**

Leadership qualities

Leadership is the capacity to change the thoughts, feelings, and actions of a significant number of individuals, writes Professor Howard Garner of Harvard in *Agenda* ..... **Page 4**

Dismal prospect

President Yeltsin of Russia faces a new year which promises a long running guerrilla war, a faltering fight against inflation, and a major realignment of the political spectrum ..... **Page 7**

Elections doubt

President Scalfaro, who must solve Italian's complex political equation, has come out against the snap elections demanded by Silvio Berlusconi ..... **Page 8**

Ceasefire hopes

Generals from the UN, the Bosnian government and separatist Serbs spent yesterday ironing out details for implementing the four-month ceasefire ..... **Page 8**

Republican new deal

The Republican Revolution begins this week with Capitol Hill's radical new leaders promising the biggest transformation since the New Deal ..... **Page 9**

Abortion gun charge

The gunman believed to have killed two people at abortion clinics will be charged tomorrow after being arrested in Virginia, where he had opened fire on a third clinic ..... **Page 9**

Fancy dress sheep roasted in blaze

■ Party-goers dressed as sheep suffered burns when their fancy dress costumes caught fire at a New Year's Eve party near Bristol. The group of nine, celebrating in cotton-wool covered black leotards, were set on fire when one of them brushed past a cigarette. The flames, made worse by the glue on their outfits, spread through the party ..... **Page 2**

MARC ASPLAND



On a cheerless New Year's Day, 2,000 cheerleaders joined the annual parade through London in aid of Scope, the spastics' charity

BUSINESS

Guinness: Controversy over the failure of the Serious Fraud Office to disclose crucial evidence to the "Guinness Four" may herald the *end of its independence* ..... **Page 32**

Cyprus mystery: A bomb exploded at a Nicosia bank owned by a Turkish Cypriot businessman and politician who is trying to buy assets owned by Polly Peck International, the conglomerate formerly run by Asil Nadir ..... **Page 32**

New losses: Financially-strapped Lloyd's names face another £1 billion of losses this year before the London insurance market returns to profit ..... **Page 32**

Falling funds: A dull year for share values meant the average British pension fund lost 4 per cent of its value in 1994 ..... **Page 32**

SPORT

Cricket: England hit trouble again as Craig McDermott took four cheap wickets ..... **Page 17**

Football: Alex Ferguson admits to telling his players to "go for their bloody throats" as his team, Manchester United, battled for a draw at Southampton ..... **Page 19**

Rugby union: Cardiff are having a bumpy ride at the top of the Heineken league as Neath become the latest team to triumph over the league leaders ..... **Page 22**

Rugby league: Francis Cummins snapped up a hat-trick of tries as Leeds scored their tenth successive victory ..... **Page 18**

Athletics: Solomon Wariso, returning after a drug ban, made the two fastest indoor sprints of his career ..... **Page 18**

ARTS

Dance history: *The Fountain of Bakhshisarai* is one of those legendary names: a ballet heard of, but never seen. Now the Kirov has revived it in Paris ..... **Page 28**

Lady of note: Opera North's revival of *Tosca* proves that the production is not what it used to be, but it is at least worth a detour to hear *Josephine Barstow* ..... **Page 28**

Jazz year: The most compelling spectacle in New York in 1994 was the sight of the world's most famous trumpeter standing for two hours without even taking his horn out of its case ..... **Page 29**

Still strong: *It has* been more than 20 years since *I Am Woman* wound its way up the pop charts. But Helen Reddy proves she can still pull out all the stops ..... **Page 29**

TV & RADIO

High flyers: An aviation pioneer was born 250 years ago and his balloon is still a soaraway success ..... **Page 10**

Close encounters: Anjana Ahuja explains why astronomers are increasingly seeing double when they search for asteroids ..... **Page 10**

Deep mysteries: The harvest of history which is being gathered from of Loch Ness silt ..... **Page 10**

Firing line: The Dorset village which the Army commandeered in 1943 and kept ..... **Page 11**

God's union: Why growing numbers of priests are seeking job protection ..... **Page 11**

EDUCATION

Classroom blues: Education authorities are being forced to act over the problem of stress-related illnesses afflicting staff ..... **Page 27**

LETTERS

It is a small step before democracies begin to become ungovernable. *That is a disturbing thought on* which to start a new year
— The Sunday Times

How quickly the national debt would disappear if tax-dodgers and social security scroungers showed one tenth of Mrs Bushen's patriotism *— Sunday Express*

Tony Blair's proposals for the break-up of the United Kingdom threaten the very prosperity of our country *— Mail on Sunday*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **STUDY IN BLUE**
Matthew Bond on Emma Thompson *in a seasonal* ghost story

■ **IDYLL ON PARADE**
Bernard Levin goes to New Zealand, and finds himself bewitched



TV LISTINGS

Preview: John Thaw plays as a star northern barrister, *Kavanagh QC* (ITV, 8pm) **Review:** *Lynne Truss is* pleased to find BBC 1's adaptation of *Cold Comfort Farm* light-hearted ..... **Page 31**

Utopia invented

The UN's next 50 years will depend on its readiness to adapt. The reinvention of government needs to find its global dimension .. **Page 13**

Dial 999 for reform

Ambulances are the first vital link to the medical services that save lives: society has a right to expect that they will respond swiftly and effectively ..... **Page 13**

Exit on queue

The British queue exudes a quiet satisfaction and — perhaps — a touching excess of faith in our system of public transport ..... **Page 13**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

If there is to be a Scottish parliament, what powers will it have? What taxes will it impose? Will it be elected at the same time as the British Parliament, or will the Scottish parliamentary elections become a focus for protest? Could there be a Labour majority at Westminster but a nationalist majority in Scotland? ..... **Page 12**

MATTHEW PARRIS

The last Governor of Hong Kong may be engaged with the destinies of millions, yet he may find lasting fame for his connection with the two tiny personalities who have become even more famous in the Orient ..... **Page 12**

PETER RIDDELL

For all the shouts of "Tories out", the Labour leadership is fortunate that an election during the coming year is highly unlikely. The party needs all the time available to prepare for office ..... **Page 12**

OBITUARIES

Air Chief Marshal Sir Edmund Hudleston; George Harvey Noble, motor racing driver; Mitko Caloski, former Yugoslav Ambassador to Britain ..... **Page 15**

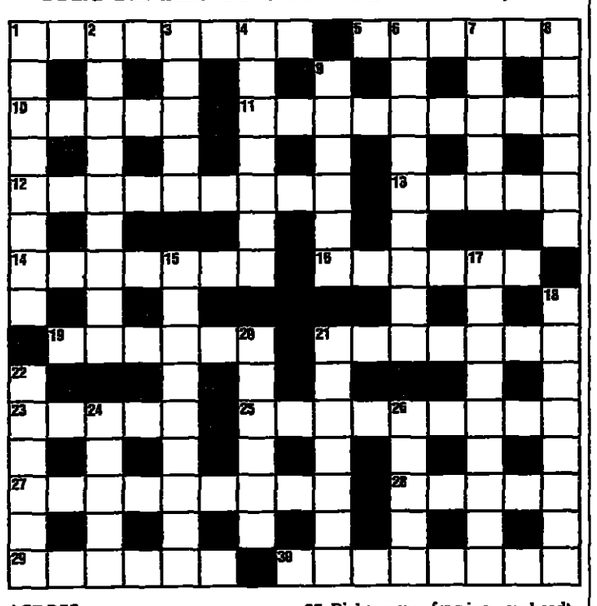
LAW REPORTS

Debate on the papyrus of St Matthew's Gospel ..... **Page 13**

LOTTERY NUMBERS

9, 17, 32, 36, 42, 44. Bonus: 16

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,741



ACROSS

1 Keep causing a jam (8).
5 Goes off for the prize (6).
10 Anything tough can be changed (5).
11 Money grabbed by an individual not known to be a criminal (9).
12 Coming to a sober conclusion (9).
13 "Men are —— when they woo" (*A.Y.L.I.*) (5).
14 A solitary child before getting ahead (7).
16 Game — the French see it and give *up the ghost!* (6).
19 Becoming a supporter with obvious hesitation (6).
21 The woman taking two articles to put into safe-keeping (7).
23 Proceed to prosecute on certain points (5).
25 To make cuts, the king is content to show patience (9).
27 Right now framing egghead's picture (9).
28 *Feature a Far-Eastern country* (5).
29 Teased unrestrainedly for appearing cool (6).
30 Part friends? (8).

DOWN

1 Music for a trainee in domestic work (8).
2 This may well be assumed by those retiring (9).
3 Returning thanks in the evening, *having enjoyed dinner?* (5)
4 Pensive perhaps, but waspish (7).
6 Fruit to snap up — Oriental fruit (9).
7 The layabout can get riled (5).
8 Walk the street unsteady gait(6).
9 Continue to trail a fearsome beast (6).
15 A tool *for simple men to carry* (9).
17 No longer stress there's a supplement (9).
18 Many always take a long time to make purchase (8).
20 Somewhat sooner (6).
21 Hails ship carrying a mixture of clay and cement (7).
22 The badly-bred one's trash! (6).
24 Spoke about the little page being most pleasant (5).
26 Note a *villain's* come round repeatedly (5).

KNOCKANDO
The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,740 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 32

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouca,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shropsh,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Bucks/Bucks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Poole, Dorset, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Tulloch Bridge, Highland, 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Aspatria, Cumbria, 0.89in; highest sunshine: Glasgow, 5.2hr.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.08 am — Sun sets: 4.03 pm
Moon sets 5.53 pm — Moon rises 6.23 am
First Quarter January 8
London 4.03 pm to 8.08 am
Bristol 4.13 pm to 8.16 am
Edinburgh 3.50 pm to 8.43 am
Manchester 4.01 pm to 7.25 am
Penzance 4.31 pm to 7.21 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** cold with sunny spells and snow showers. England and Wales will have a frosty start with icy roads. In Wales and western England, much of the day will be dry and sunny. Most of eastern England will have snow showers, heaviest and most frequent in Lincolnshire and East Anglia. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be frosty early on with snow showers in the morning. Cold *everywhere, windy in east.*

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England:** some sunshine and a few snow showers. Wind fresh NW. V cold. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **E Anglia, E England:** heavy snow showers. Wind strong NW. Bitterly cold. Max 2C (36F).

☐ **E Midlands, W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Cent N:** chance of coastal showers, otherwise dry and bright. Wind fresh NW becoming SW later. V cold. Max 3C (37F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England:** mainly dry and sunny. Wind light NW. Cold. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** morning snow showers, then mainly sunny. Wind fresh NW easing later. V cold. Max 3C (37F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** a few coastal snow showers early on, then dry and bright. Wind becoming brisk S later. V cold. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Outlook:** Tomorrow mostly dry, *milder, wet weather on* Wednesday.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; da=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

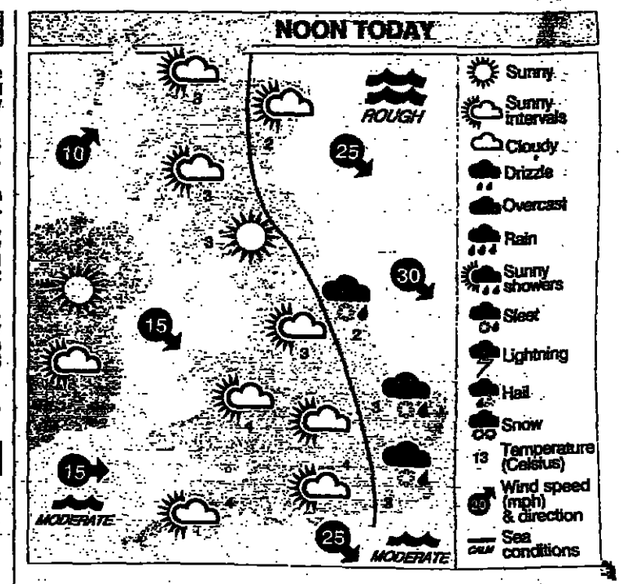
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.8	0.32	3	37	sn	Lerwick	0.1	X	2	36	t
Anglesey	2.8	0.09	6	43	sh	Leuchars	4.1	-	4	39	s
Aviemore	0.7	0.32	1	34	sn	Liverpool	0.7	0.20	4	39	sn
Belfast	4.9	0.18	4	39	sh	London	2.1	X	7	45	r
Birmingham	1.0	0.02	4	39	sl	Manchester	0.3	0.10	4	39	sn
Bognor R	3.8	0.03	8	46	sh	Margate	X	0.14	8	46	sn
Bournemth	3.9	0.02	9	48	sh	Minehead	1.3	0.27	7	45	sh
Bristol	1.4	0.31	7	45	sh	Morecambe	0.9	0.07	4	39	sn
Buxton	0.6	0.18	2	36	sn	Newcastle	-	0.40	3	37	sn
Cardiff	2.5	0.30	7	45	sh	Newquay	1.1	0.22	8	46	r
Clacton	3.4	-	6	43	s	Norwich	4.0	0.03	7	45	sh
Cromer	4.4	0.02	6	43	sh	Nottingham	2.2	0.02	4	39	sn
Doncaster	1.4	0.16	4	39	sl	Oxford	2.6	0.03	6	43	sh
Edinburgh	3.4	0.02	4	39	b	Penzance	2.6	0.15	8	46	sh
Eskdalemuir	4.1	0.20	2	36	s	Plymouth	3.7	0.06	8	46	b
Exmouth	3.9	0.10	8	46	b	Poole	4.1	-	9	48	s
Falmouth	X	0.18	7	45	sh	Sandown	3.7	0.01	9	48	b
Fishguard	0.5	0.21	6	43	sh	Scarboro'	-	0.81	4	39	sn
Folkestone	3.4	-	8	46	b	Scilly Isles	2.5	0.06	8	46	sh
Glasgow	5.2	-	4	39	s	Shanklin	X	0.01	9	48	sh
Guernsey	4.1	0.37	9	48	sh	Skegness	3.5	0.17	6	43	sn
Hastings	3.9	-	9	48	b	Southend	2.2	0.28	8	46	r
Hayling L	4.2	0.01	9	48	sh	Stoutpool	0.4	0.18	4	39	sl
Herne Bay	3.1	0.17	8	46	r	Stornoway	0.9	0.03	3	37	sn
Hove	1.4	0.01	9	48	c	Swanage	4.9	0.01	9	48	s
Hunstanton	3.7	0.10	5	41	s	Teignmouth	4.8	0.09	9	48	b
Isle of Man	4.6	0.07	5	41	s	Tenby	0.7	0.12	7	45	c
Jersey	3.6	0.47	9	48	h	Tiree	2.2	0.02	5	41	sh
Kinloss	0.3	0.09	4	39	sh	Torquay	4.2	0.07	9	48	b
Leeds	-	0.09	3	37	sl	Weymouth	4.2	0.02	9	48	b

ABROAD

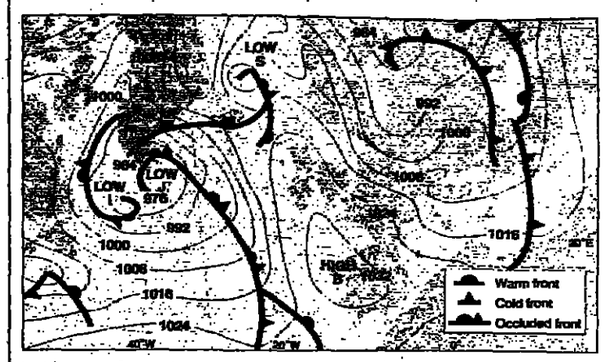
Ajaccio	11	52	r	Corfu	17	63	f	Majorca	14	57	s	Rome	17	63	c
Akrotiri	17	63	f	Dublin	3	37	c	Malaga	16	61	d	Salzburg	4	39	c
Alex'dria	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	13	55	c	Malta	18	64	s	S F'risco	7	45	c
Algiers	22	72	s	Faro	17	63	s	Melb'rne	19	66	f	Santiago	27	81	f
Amst'dm	2	36	c	Florence	13	55	f	Mexico C	-	—		S Paulo	23	73	c
Athens	19	66	f	Frankfurt	4	39	c	Miami	26	79	c	Seoul	1	34	s
Bahrain	20	68	s	Funchal	22	72	s	Milan	8	46	s	Singapor	29	84	f
Bangkok	31	88	s	Geneva	5	41	f	Montreal	-8	18	s	St'kholm	1	34	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	17	63	r	Moscow	1	34	c	Strasb'rg	5	41	f
Barcelona	9	48	r	Helsinki	2	36	c	Munich	2	36	c	Sydney	28	82	s
Beirut	16	61	f	Hong K	16	66	f	Nairobi	28	82	f	Tangier	19	66	c
Belgrade	4	39	f	Innsbruck	3	37	c	Naples	18	64	f	Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Berlin	3	37	f	Istanbul	13	55	r	N Delhi	16	61	s	Tenerife	22	72	s
Biarritz	8	46	f	Jeddah	25	77	s	N York	6	43	f	Tokyo	11	52	s
Borde'x	6	43	c	Jo'burg	27	81	s	Nice	15	59	s	Toronto	1	34	r
Brussels	3	37	f	Karachi	-	—		Oslo	-2	28	f	Tunis	24	75	s
Budapst	3	37	f	L Palmas	21	70	s	Paris	3	37	f	Valencia	16	61	f
B Aires	34	93	s	Le Touqt	4	39	f	Peking	4	39	s	Vanc'ver	0	32	s
Cairo	19	66	s	Lisbon	12	54	s	Perth	33	91	s	Venice	9	48	f
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Locarno	10	50	s	Prague	2	36	f	Vienna	5	41	f
Chicago	2	36	c	L Angels	13	55	f	Reykjavik	-5	23	c	Warsaw	3	37	c
Ch'church	18	64	f	Luxembg	1	34	c	Rhodes	18	64	f	Washton	5	41	c
Cologne	3	37	c	Luxor	21	70	s	Rio de J	30	86	s	Wel'ngton	17	63	s
C'phagn	2	36	f	Madrid	8	46	f	Riyadh	16	61	s	Zurich	3	37	f

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high B will drift E into Continent but maintain central pressure; low S will move E then SE gradually filling; lows I and J will move E and join



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.46	7.29	2.10	7.47	Leith	2.40	5.79	3.01	5.85
Aberdeen	1.26	4.52	1.44	4.61	Liverpool	11.32	9.97	11.12	9.67
Avonmouth	7.32	13.98	7.58	13.78	Lowestoft	3.50	2.56	8.58	2.67
Belfast	11.25	3.74	11.54	3.56	Margate	0.05	4.85	0.33	4.95
Cardiff	7.35	12.46	7.57	12.43	Milford Haven	6.26	7.43	6.54	7.25
Devonport	6.07	5.71	6.37	5.51	Newquay	5.20	7.09	5.44	6.98
Dover	11.19	6.87	11.42	6.68	Oban	6.02	4.26	6.17	4.03
Dublin	11.53	4.46	11.39	4.31	Penzance	4.56	5.74	5.20	5.52
Falmouth	5.33	5.35	5.59	5.15	Portland	7.03	2.34	7.28	2.11
Glasgow	0.45	4.70	1.16	4.84	Portsmouth	11.39	5.01	-	-
Harwich	11.28	4.08	0.17	4.16	Shoreham	11.39	6.56	11.20	6.42
Holyhead	10.35	6.00	11.07	5.73	Southampton	11.05	4.83	11.33	4.68
Hull	6.38	7.61	6.48	7.76	Swansea	6.43	9.86	7.08	9.70
Ilfracombe	8.15	9.90	8.41	9.76	Tees	3.56	5.59	4.10	5.69
King's Lynn	8.25	6.95	8.45	7.25	Witon-on-Nze	11.22	4.23	0.13	4.33

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SPORT FOR ALL

23
Making way for the stronger sex

FOOTBALL

19
Saints and sinners mix flair with malice

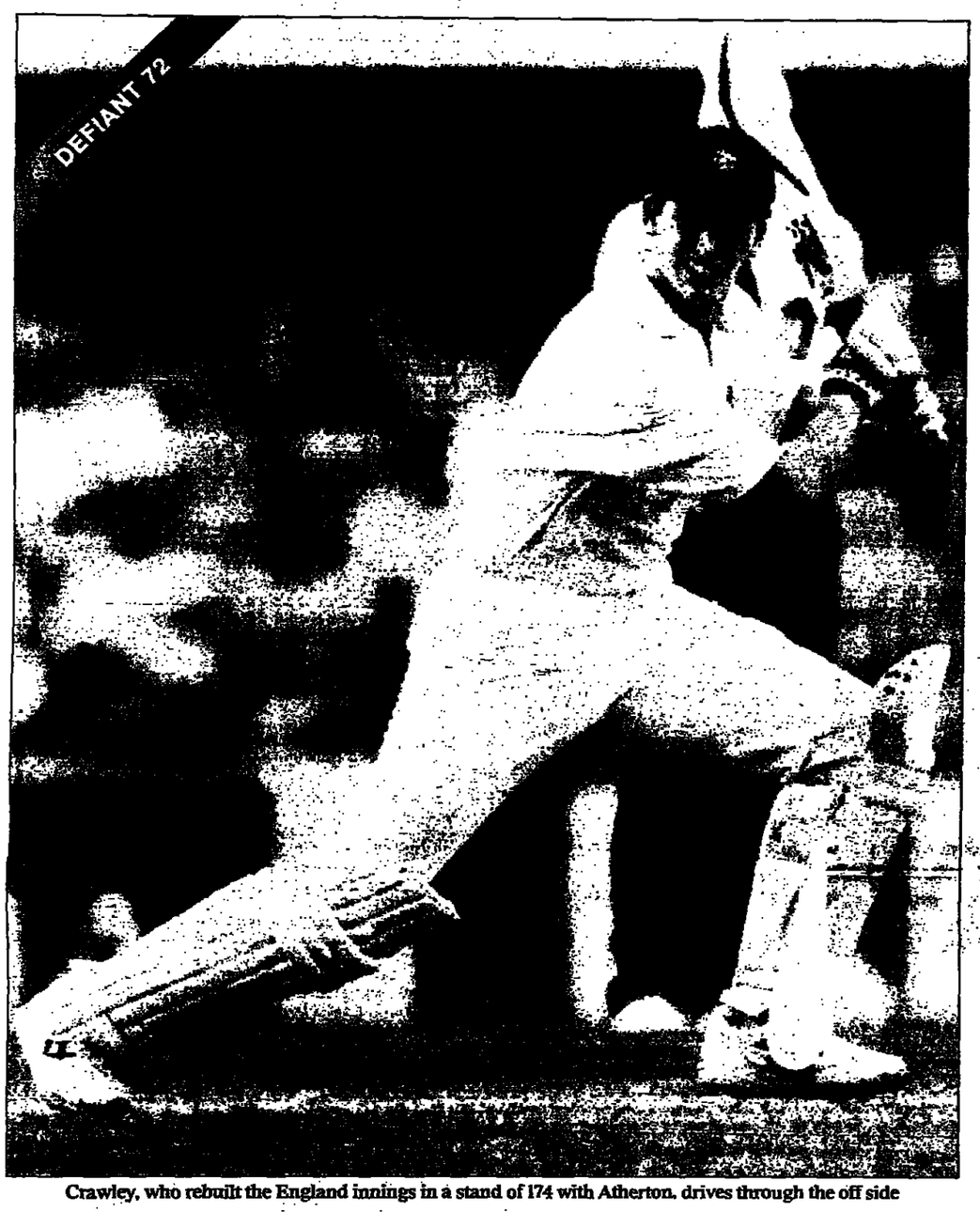
RUGBY UNION

22
Australia's last-gasp kick foils Scotland schoolboys

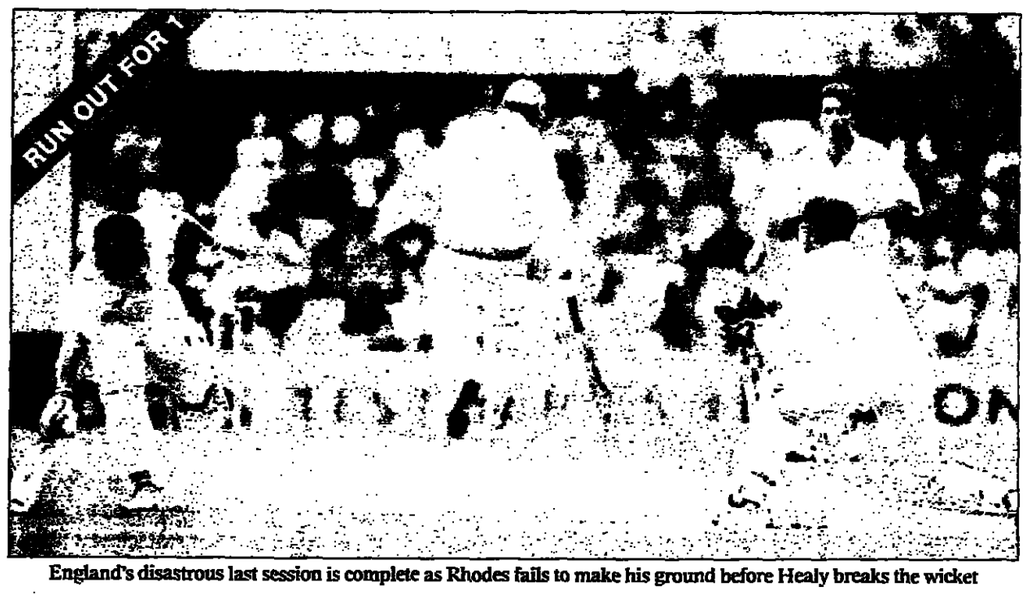
RACING

24
Complete guide to bank holiday meetings

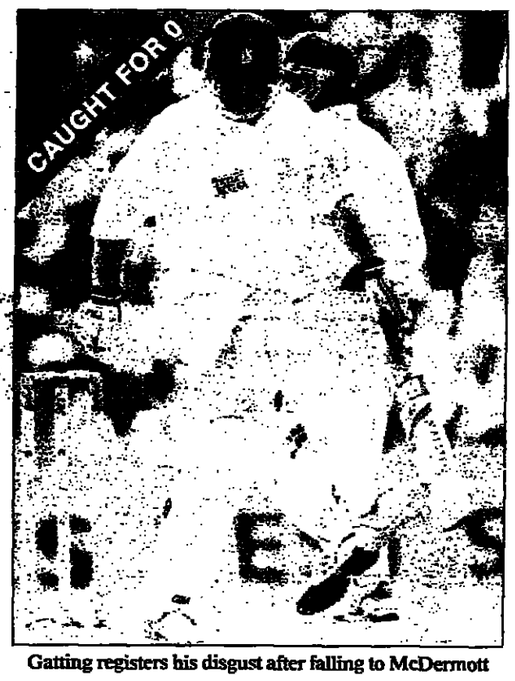
TIMES SPORT



Crawley, who rebuilt the England innings in a stand of 174 with Atherton, drives through the off side



England's disastrous last session is complete as Rhodes fails to make his ground before Healy breaks the wicket



Gatting registers his disgust after falling to McDermott



Hick's brief stay is ended by McDermott's inswinger

Batsmen cast as heroes and villains after double collapse

McDermott wrecks England

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN SYDNEY

THERE is a New Year's Eve tradition among the people of Sydney, which involves sitting around the harbour-side for many hours awaiting a fireworks display that lasts only a few minutes. Those attending the third Test, on the morning after the night before, thought they were witnessing this routine in reverse, until a second display was staged in the dying minutes of play.

Three-quarters of this first day belonged to England, their ailing spirits galvanised by a partnership of character between the captain, Michael Atherton, and his *alter* ego, John Crawley. Either side of it, however, lay familiar destruction. Of the day's seven wickets, three fell for 20 in the opening hour, the remaining four for just three runs in the final half-hour.

Atherton batted for 329 minutes and was so distraught at falling when he did that his head never lifted to witness 31,000 people standing in tribute. Minutes later, Crawley had gone, after a positive, fluent 72, the innings of one who must now be reassured he is in the side for the foreseeable future.

All seven wickets were taken by a ball in its first overs of use, the mark of a challenging but by no means malicious pitch. Shane Warne did not take a wicket all day, a remark worth savouring for its originality, and the heroics were left to Craig McDermott, who took two wickets in the morning, two in the evening and spent much of the afternoon off the field with debilitating stomach cramps.

McDermott and Warne were last night tied at 20 wickets apiece in this series and, while the star-spangled spinner has monopolised public adulation, England would be a good deal less penurious had McDermott not performed as he has. His first over with the second new ball, in which he dismissed both Atherton and Mike Gatting, was as fine a piece of cricket as any seen in the past weeks.

The Australian pair are different in far more ways than their bowling styles. Warne is engagingly loquacious, generous in his praise for others. McDermott is more taciturn. Last night, for instance, he was grudging in his acknowledgment of England's fourth-wicket pair. Crawley, according to McDermott, "must have scored 66 of his 72 on the leg side". Pressed to be gracious about Atherton, he responded: "Um ... he's obviously got some qualities," as if he could not think what they might be. Both were worthy of kinder words than that.

They came together in the type of mess to which Atherton has grown accustomed but Crawley will have found novel. His cricket has mirrored that of his captain, threading through Manchester Grammar School, Cambridge University, England Under-19 and Lancashire. At each stage, just as Atherton did, a history degree course earlier, he heard it said that the highest honours are preordained.

Crawley's first experiences at this level, against South Africa, were deflating. Now, given his chance due to Alec Stewart's broken finger, his mettle was tested every bit as much as his oft-questioned technique. Neither let him down.

Atherton had chosen to bat as, logically, he had to do, but there was enough moisture below the surface to promise early hazards. A banner, fluttering from a fast-filling main stand, summed up the mood of condescension spreading among the Australian public. "If the Poms bat first, let's tell the taxi to wait," it read.

Graham Gooch would not have added much to any ticking meters and his third successive failure was a sad one, his lack of footwork indicating a great player heading inexorably for the end. Damien Fleming had beaten him twice in his opening over, with his stock outswinger, before producing a beauty to have him caught behind. McDermott then slanted an inswinger through a gap between Graeme Hick's bat and pad and had Graham Thorpe leg-before with a yorker that hit him on the back foot.

Atherton, although in far from convincing form, displayed the necessary resilience. He needed the fortune he did not have in Melbourne, surviving one persuasive leg-before appeal, and he ventured only two scoring strokes in an hour-long passage of attrition.

This, however, is his way, and as the scoreboard regularly flashed up the information that he made more Test runs than anyone in the world during 1994, who is to deride it? Sydney is also the ground on which he batted 451 minutes for his first overseas Test hundred, four years ago, and as the day wore on a repeat looked ever more probable.

McDermott had to retreat to the dressing-room after a waspish post-lunch spell and Australia did not take another wicket until he next bowled. By then, the fourth wicket had added 174, England's biggest stand of the series.

McDermott knocked out Atherton's off stump with late inswing, then had Gatting caught behind, fourth ball, with lift and away swing. Fleming squared up Crawley, Mark Waugh taking the catch at second slip, whereupon mounting panic brought a slice of slapstick cricket that would have been mocked in a village second team, its result the run-out of Steven Rhodes. Normal service had been resumed, just when England had hinted at a change of plot.

John Woodcock, page 25

SCOREBOARD FROM SYDNEY

England won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings

G A Gooch c Healy b Fleming 1
(7min, 9 balls)
*M A Atherton b McDermott 88
(331min, 257 balls, 8 fours)
G A Hick b McDermott 2
(21min, 13 balls)
G P Thorpe lbw b McDermott 10
(27min, 17 balls, 2 fours)
J P Crawley c M Waugh b Fleming 72
(291min, 226 balls, 6 fours)
M W Gatting c Healy b McDermott ... 0
(3min, 4 balls)
A R C Fraser not out 3
(29min, 18 balls)
†S J Rhodes run out (S R Waugh/Fleming/Healy) 1
(3min, 2 balls)
D Gough not out 0
(12min, 9 balls)
Extras (b 7, lb 7, nb 7) 21
Total (7 wkts, 93 overs, 388min) ... 198
D E Malcolm and P C R Tufnell to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1 (Atherton 0), 2-10 (Atherton 7), 3-20 (Atherton 7), 4-194 (Crawley 72), 5-194 (Crawley 72), 6-196 (Fraser 2), 7-197 (Fraser 2).

BOWLING: McDermott 20-7-42-4 (nb 2, 3-3-14-2, 8-2-22-0, 5-2-6-2); Fleming 20-10-34-2 (5-3-7-1, 5-3-6-0, 4-0-18-0, 2-1-1-0, 4-3-3-1); Warne 27-8-58-0 (8-3-11-0, 6-1-22-0, 7-2-9-0, 6-2-14-0). May 17-4-35-0 (nb 3, 9-3-11-0, 8-1-24-0); M E Waugh 5-1-9-0 (nb 2; one spell); Bevan 4-1-8-0 (one spell).

AUSTRALIA: M J Slater, *M A Taylor, D C Boon, M E Waugh, M G Bevan, S R Waugh, †I A Healy, S K Warne, C J McDermott, T B A May and D W Fleming.

Umpires: S Bucknor (W Indies) and D Harper (Australia). Replay umpire: W A Cameron.

PREVIOUS TESTS: First (Brisbane), Australia won by 184 runs. Second (Melbourne): Australia won by 295 runs

TESTS TO COME: Fourth: Adelaide (January 26-30). Fifth: Perth (February 3-7)

☐ Compiled by Bill Frindall

Fletcher hints at Illingworth rift

THE private power struggle between Raymond Illingworth and Keith Fletcher is threatening to become unedifyingly public after an open disagreement yesterday over a summons for yet another replacement player (Alan Lee writes).

During only ten days in Australia, Illingworth, the chairman of selectors, has assumed a high profile, offering criticisms whenever asked, some of them personal and others tactless. While his support for Michael Atherton's captaincy has been loyal, the same cannot be said of his backing for Fletcher, the team manager.

Fletcher has superficially absorbed all this with equanimity but yesterday, frayed edges were on view when he was questioned at close of play about the long-term side injury to Craig White and the much-mooted possibility that Neil Fairbrother, of Lancashire, was about to join the tour.

Having agreed that White is unlikely to take any further part in the programme, Fletcher insisted that no decision had been taken on a replacement. He was then informed that Illingworth had visited the press box and declared that Fairbrother was on his way.

"What Illy says is up to Illy," Fletcher said, with an unusual edge to his voice. "Fairbrother has not been called for, not by me and certainly not by Illingworth." The use of the surname did not seem insignificant and the question of just who is running the England team becomes harder to answer each day.

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BLAZER

Wariso ups gas in successful comeback


Wariso: inside 21 seconds

BY DAVID POWELL

SOLOMON WARISO stepped on the gas, as distinct from upping it with ephedrine, and recorded the fastest two indoor sprints of his life over the weekend. Wariso, who failed a drugs test after taking Up Your Gas pills, fought his way onto the podium in the 60 metres and 200 metres in the Birmingham New Year Games, his first competition since completing his suspension.

After the sport had booted him into the cold for his transgression, he chose the warmth of the national indoor arena for a cosy return. Athletes outnumbered spectators and not an unkind word was heard. "Athletes have been saying to me 'Welcome back'," Wariso said. "Not one adverse comment, at least not to my face."

Wariso is acknowledged, by Peter Radford, the executive chairman of the British Athletic Federation, among others, to have been naive in not checking whether Up Your Gas contained a banned substance and that he had no intent to cheat. His failed test cost him his place in the European championships and Commonwealth Games.

Including rounds and finals, Wariso ran six races over the weekend. "I do not normally do the 60 metres, but, what with the ban, I wanted to grab every opportunity to run," he said. The reward for his endeavours was a personal best 6.72sec for third place in the 60 metres on Saturday and his first sub-21sec run for 200 metres yesterday.

Wariso improved his best from 21.01sec to 20.99sec, but, paradoxically, slipped from equal sixth to seventh in the all-time British rankings. Darren Braithwaite, with whom he shared sixth place, recorded 20.87sec to win. Wariso regretted running the shorter event. "Never again will I do a 60 metres," he said. He concluded that the tiring effect had cost him a victory in the 200 metres.

It may also deny him a place in Britain's first match of the year, against Russia in Birmingham on January 28. In the two-a-side fixture, Braithwaite can expect to be chosen to partner John Regis. Though not excited by the prospect of the world indoor championships in Barcelona in March, concerned that too much indoor running might place demands on his "dodgy back", Wariso will go if selected. "I would not get ideas above my station and start turning championships down," he said.

Wariso thought of quitting, but, after six weeks off, resumed training. Michael Bruce, Wariso's coach, detects a new resolve. "You never appreciate what you have got until you have lost it, and he nearly lost it," Bruce said. "He's changed. He's more serious. Something like what happened to him shocks you and scares you. He is much more focused."

A time of 20.80sec is Wariso's target now and, given his poor start and slow first bend, that seems realistic. Come the summer, he will experiment with the 400 metres and, if successful, will move up in distance at the AAA championships to try to challenge Roger Black and Du'aine Ladejo. "I reckon I have the speed and the strength for the 400," Wariso said.

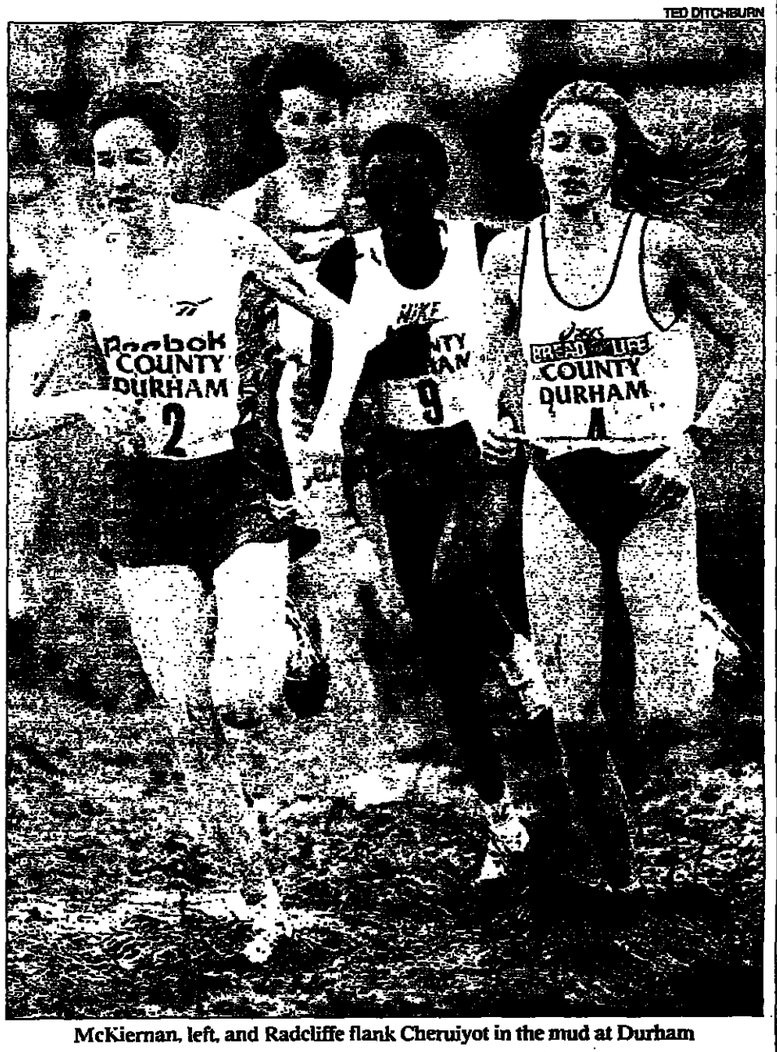
Braithwaite, mainly because of injuries, has not fulfilled the potential he showed in 1990 when he reached the European 100 metres final. He hopes that this year will be different, starting with the world indoor championships.

Runaway Kenyan winner as world is reminded of 'real' cross country

Radcliffe senses hope from defeat in Durham mud

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

TED DITCHBURN


McKiernan, left, and Radcliffe flank Cheruiyot in the mud at Durham

FOR the jingoistic British sports fan, tired of the failures of 1994, a date for the diary: March 25, 1995. Make your way to the bleak hill at Maiden Castle, Co Durham, and see whether Paula Radcliffe can win the senior women's world cross-country championship. She just might.

On this hill, from which almost the entire course can be viewed, spectators can watch close-up the worst of the suffering that goes into cross-country running. The hill is long, steep, and muddy. This is *real* cross country, the toughest part of a lap, to be run several times, which will take the world championships *this year away from the flat*, characterless circuits which have become the norm.

"A proper cross-country course," was Radcliffe's verdict after the County Durham International on Saturday, staged on a shorter, inner circuit, of the one to be used for the world championships. Radcliffe finished third in her first international elite race for 11 months after injury. On ten weeks' full training, she split Ireland's two European champions, Catherina McKiernan and Sonia O'Sullivan, and still 11 weeks remain to reach peak fitness.

Rarely can the end of an unbeaten streak have been taken so cheerfully. "This shows I am on the right lines," Radcliffe said, pleased not only with her run but that the foot which had given her so much trouble was only "a little bit stiff". So busy with specialists had 1994 been, that she had almost forgotten she had won her previous seven races.

Radcliffe's enthusiasm for the course — "I train on places like this" — contrasted with McKiernan's reaction. "I suppose that is what cross country is about," McKiernan, who has finished runner-up at three world championships, said. "I am going to have to prepare in a completely different way; more strength work.

"I don't like the mud and it needs to be done if I'm going to run on this sort of course again."

However, one remark of McKiernan's reminded us, in our enthusiasm for Radcliffe's comeback, of the bigger picture. "These Kenyans," she said. "I don't know what to do with them."

Last winter, Helen Chepngeno became the first senior women's world cross-country champion from Kenya, and now Rose Cheruiyot, the runaway winner on Saturday, looks a prospective successor. Cheruiyot, 18, is a junior, but John Bicourt, the former Great Britain steeplechaser and her manager, wants the selectors to pick her for the senior race. "She definitely will not run the junior race," Bicourt said.

Besides Chepngeno and Cheruiyot, there is growing depth among Kenyan women cross-country runners which suggests that they may eventually prove as invincible as the men, unless China makes a dedicated challenge.

The Chinese women were twentieth in the world championships last year, but Wang Bin, their coach in Durham, said he expected his country to be in the team medals come March, though that was on Friday. He may think differently now that he knows the course is a mud soup, not to Chinese tastes.

It was the attendance of Wang, who sits with Ma Junren on China's training committee, that was more significant than that of his athletes, neither of whom finished in the top ten and are unlikely to make the team.

He had been briefed to provide a world championship preparation report; he described the course as "too soft". He also said, ominously perhaps, that China would be even more successful at the track and field world championships in Gothenburg (in August) than they were in Stuttgart in 1993, when their women distance runners took the meeting by storm.

Ismael Kirui won the men's race on Saturday. Two Kenyan victories, so what is new? Andrew Pearson, Britain's top man, finished second. If he can place in the top 25 of the world championships, he will have run well. He likes tough going. Just as well.

The Liaoning Provincial Sports Commission in China is looking for a temporary replacement for Ma Junren, the national "super coach". Ma is in hospital, having been hurt in a car crash in Liaoning on Thursday when the vehicle he was driving struck a barrier while he was travelling from Anshan, his home town, to his training centre, which is based in Dalian.

Leeds strengthen claim

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

LEEDS, contenders for the Stones Bitter Championship, began the new year in style at a packed Headingley with a 42-14 trouncing of Halifax. Spurred on by a crowd of 19,218, the home side secured its tenth successive victory — equalling their best run for three years — against a team that had lost only two of its past 13 games.

Francis Cummins, the wing, scored a hat-trick of tries and their scrum half, Graham Holroyd, kicked seven goals from nine attempts, including three from the touchline.

Bradford forced their way into the top three by beating Salford 24-18 at wintry Odsal. Salford, winners there only once in the past 15 years, looked to be in with a chance of improving that record when they trailed just 20-18 after 68 minutes, but their recent signing, Paul Round, having only his second game as a substitute since being signed from Halifax on Christmas Eve, broke Salford's spirits with a try in the closing minutes.

Bobby Goulding kicked four goals from four attempts against his old club as St Helens beat Widnes 20-10. The St Helens scrum half — returning to Naughton Park for the first time since his £135,000 summer move — also played a key role in Alan Hunte's sixteenth try of the season early in the second half which put his side on its way to victory.

A first-half hat-trick by Scott Ramson, their wing, helped Oldham to consolidate their place in the top eight at the expense of Workington. The Cumbrians gave a performance more in keeping with a mid-table side but Oldham missed three clear-cut chances when leading by only six points before the loose forward, Mike Kuiti, scored a try on the stroke of full-time for a 20-10 win. The rest of the championship programme fell victim to icy weather that froze the pitches at Doncaster, Featherstone and Wakefield.

In the second division, the basement club, Highfield, ended a run of 39 successive league defeats with a 14-12 victory at Barrow. The deserved win — albeit against a side that has managed only one victory this term — was their first since September 1993. Julian Hudson and Gaisone Del Ferro went over for the visitors and Andy Rippon added three goals.

Hunslet scored three tries to Dewsbury's two, but five goals by Richard Agar gave the visitors an 18-16 victory.

Citroën take early honours

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Citroën team dominated the opening day of the Paris-Dakar rally yesterday, filling the three leading places after the 170-kilometre first stage between Granada and Motril, in Spain.

Timo Salonen, the Finnish driver, made light of the heavy rain that made road conditions in the Sierra Nevada treacherous, completing the stage in 2hr 10min 33sec.

His team-mate and compatriot, Ari Vatanen, four times a winner of the event, was just over three minutes behind Salonen in second with the winner last year, Pierre Lartigue, of France, a further 38 seconds back. Mitsubishi took the next three places through the French pair of Jean-Pierre Fontenay and Bruno Saby, and Kenjiro Shinozuka, of Japan.

Saby, who won the rally in 1993, was forced to drive for 100 kilometres with a flat tyre after sustaining two punctures in less than three kilometres.

The Spanish driver, Salvador Servia, also of Citroën, was seventh after being hampered by a defective windscreen wiper which forced him to drive slowly for much of the stage.

In the motor-cycle event, Heinz Kinigadner, from Austria, twice the world motocross champion, finished first for the stage in 2:18.29. Riding a KTM machine, he was 48 seconds ahead of the Frenchman, Stephane Peterhansel, three times a winner, on a Yamaha.

☐ Contrary to a report in *The Times on Saturday*, an all-British team has completed the rally before. As the only British entrants in this year's race headed across the Sierra Nevada yesterday at the start of their 7,500-mile trek to the shores of Lake Senegal, they learnt that, even if they do complete the gruelling event, they would not be the first all-British finishers.

Mark and Simon Dutton, from London, and their mechanic, Nick Morgan, from Stockton-on-Tees, began the rally without hope of winning in their Land Rover but under the impression that they could still be the first all-British team to finish.

It emerged yesterday, however, that Tony Howard and John Miles, then journalists with *Autocar* magazine, completed the rally, which was then run between Paris and Dakar, in a Range Rover in 1981. They finished 27th in their class.

"It was an amateur, unsupported, self-managed, maintained and navigated effort," Miles said, "and it was most definitely all British."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Foreman to defend against German

GEORGE FOREMAN, the world heavyweight boxing champion, will defend his title at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans in April. Foreman, who will be 46 on January 10, is to fight Axel Schulz, of Germany, on April 22 or April 29.

Schulz, 26, would be only the third German to challenge for the heavyweight crown. The last was Karl Mildenberger, who lost to Muhammad Ali in 1966. The only German to hold the world heavyweight title was Max Schmeling. Foreman knocked out Michael Moorer in the tenth round on November 5 to win the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles. He will be giving away 20 years to Schulz, whose last contest was a ten-round decision over the former champion, James "Bonecrusher" Smith.

PFA sues magazine

FOOTBALL: The Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) is to sue the magazine *Business Age* and Sunday newspapers that revealed details of its accounts. The chief executive of the PFA, Gordon Taylor, said yesterday: "We have called in our legal team as there are gross inaccuracies in the figures quoted."

The magazine revealed Taylor's earnings, saying his salary in 1992 had gone from £82,875 to more than £200,000. The story also appeared in some of yesterday's papers with the *Sunday Mirror* publishing Taylor's tax details.

Evans near to fitness



RUGBY UNION: Ieuan Evans, right, the Wales wing, confidently expects to be back to full fitness by the time England play at Cardiff Arms Park on February 18. Evans fractured an ankle in October, but has made such rapid progress that he expects to play for Llanelli within a week or so. "I'm very pleased with my progress," he said. "I'll be 100 per cent in time for England."

Muralitharan strikes

CRICKET: A devastating spell of off spin bowling by Mutiah Muralitharan reduced South Africa's Border team to 218 for nine on the opening day of a four-day match against Sri Lanka in East London yesterday. Extracting alarming turn from the pitch, Muralitharan took six for 57 after Border, who won the toss and elected to bat, went to lunch on 69 without loss.

Ethiopian pair prevail

ATHLETICS: Haile Gebresilasie led an Ethiopian one-two in the 9.6km New Year's Day road race in Houilles, France, yesterday. The world 10,000 metres champion made the most of the absence through injury of Khalid Skah, of Morocco, the winner for the past six years. Gebresilasie clocked 26min 38sec to win by 14sec from Belika Worku, who led Bruno Le Stum, of France, by 30sec.

Carr makes ideal start

CYCLING: Zachary Carr started 1995 by repeating his victory of last year in the CC Breckland ten-mile time trial at Wymondham, Norkfolk, finishing in 22min 05sec and again beating Jes King into second place. Carr, 19, from Norfolk, wasted no time celebrating, setting off afterwards on a training ride. In the Midlands, the Wrekinsport ten-mile trial was cancelled because of bad weather.

Cash secures victory



TENNIS: Pat Cash, right, the former Wimbledon champion, marked his latest comeback from injury by leading Australia into the Hopman Cup quarter-finals with a 2-1 win over the seventh seeds, South Africa, in Perth yesterday. Cash beat the veteran, Christo van Reusburg, 7-5, 6-2 to keep Australia in the tie and then linked with Kristine Radford to win the decisive doubles 7-6, 7-6.

Four make centuries

CRICKET: Four batsmen scored centuries in South Australia's first innings of 524 for eight declared against Victoria in the Sheffield Shield. Darren Lehmann (100) and James Brayshaw (134 not) yesterday joined Saturday's century-makers, Greg Blewett (112) and Paul Nobes (110). At the close Victoria were 171 for five.

Second-chance record

SKI JUMPING: Janne Ahonen, of Finland, took advantage of a rare decision allowing him to repeat a jump to win the second event of the Four Hills tournament at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, yesterday. Judges allowed a rejump after a gust of wind pushed Ahonen into the hill. Ahonen, 17, then set a hill record of 114 metres.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 32

UROLAGNIA

(b) Sexual pleasure derived from urination. 1980, *Spectator*, July 5th: "Was it his mother's fault that he suffered from urolagnia?"

VITRAIN

(c) A black, highly lustrous, and often brittle type of coal. "When a seam contains thick layers of bright coal, the soft and mostly brittle vitrain concentrates in the smalls."

TEEM

(a) To drain the water off. "Morag wouldn't even teem the potatoes. She somehow felt that the whole process would ruin her soft hands."

VELETA

(c) A ballroom round dance for couples in triple time, originating in England in 1900. "Jane made me take her through a veleta, and she danced so elegantly. We also danced the Gay Gordons, and the Dashing White Sergeant."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. . . . Qxh3!; 2. gxh3 Nf2+; 3. Kg1 Nxh3 mate.

Tournament gets off to bad start

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

WITH the new year in its infancy and the World Invitation Club basketball championships barely past the first-round matches, players and officials at Crystal Palace yesterday were doing their utmost to demonstrate that the season of goodwill is already long gone.

A loser's match between the London club, the Leopards, and Trencin of Slovakia generated such high feelings that a player from each side met in a deliberate head-on collision during the first half.

For butting each other, Sam Stiller, a guest player for the Leopards, and Juraj Zuffa, the Trentin player-coach, were each banned for a game by the tournament's technical committee. "There had been lots of niggle between them during the game," the tournament director, David Last, said. "It was obviously a case of early morning blues on New Year's Day."

Last was particularly upset that Stiller had blotted his copybook since both the tournament organisers and the Leopards' first-round conquerors, Danone Honved, had agreed to his participation as an Englishman, although it was as an Israeli that the former player for Bracknell and Kingston, who is Jewish by birth, represented Maccabi Haifa until they recently folded.

"We magnanimously allowed him to play and then he goes and gets himself banned, which is very clever," Last said sarcastically. For Leopards it was a bad weekend, notwithstanding their victory over Trencin. On Saturday, their England guard, Karl Brown, was suspended for two Budweiser League fixtures by a four-man disciplinary committee. This followed his part in a crowd disturbance in Birmingham's National Indoor Arena a fortnight ago.

Brown had left the game against Bullets to join in a fracas involving his brother, who had been asked to "refrain from using foul and abusive language" by the Birmingham owner, Harry Wrublewski. It is a fortunate coincidence, perhaps, that one of the games Brown will miss is the Leopards' return to the NIA. The other one is a visit to Manchester Giants.

Klaus Stroh, the Swedish coach of the womens' club, London Heat, was another to see red, for disputing a call made by the Australian official, Jeanine Collihole, and then persisting and, finally, for addressing "some totally inappropriate words in our direction," according to the commissioner, Mike Pollock.

Stroh incurred three technical fouls and was thrown out of his side's game against the England national team. Chris Castle sank five of the subsequent six free throws to speed England to their 77-70 win. Stroh was later given a two-game ban, which will apply to whichever team he coaches in this tournament.

Basketball results and league tables ..... Page 26

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	5	35	worn	heavy	art	cloud	2	31/12
(Majority of runs showing signs of wear, snow forecast)								
Schladming	15	45	worn	varied	closed	snow	0	1/1
(Resort busy; well used pistes worn; snow falling)								
Söll	10	45	fair	powder	fair	cloud	0	1/1
(Pistes improved with recent snow, more to come)								
St Anton	30	175	good	powder	fair	snow	-8	1/1
(Good powder skiing; high winds at altitude)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	35	120	good	powder	good	snow	-6	1/1
(Wonderful snow and skiing on and off piste)								
Courchevel	45	110	good	powder	good	snow	-3	1/1
(Perfect snow conditions but very poor visibility)								
Megève	15	100	good	powder	fair	snow	-4	1/1
(Vastly improved conditions; still snowing)								
Val Thorens	70	165	good	powder	good	snow	-6	1/1
(Good powder skiing on and off piste)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	20	200	good	powder	good	snow	-2	1/1
(Superb skiing everywhere: more runs opening)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	50	100	good	powder	closed	snow	-7	1/1
(Snow falling at all altitudes; excellent prospects)								
Mürren	30	65	good	powder	good	snow	-4	1/1
(Good skiing on open runs; Schilthorn closed at present)								
Verbier	65	150	good	powder	good	snow	-2	1/1
(Superb skiing both on and off piste)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial

Forest caught cold in West Ham's winter wonderland


Martin: old master



Simon Barnes on a 3-1 victory for the London side that was a reward for combining effort with artistry

It's all very well putting on the style in September. You need additional qualities when the year turns and winter bites. It seems sometimes that in January and February points should count double. It seems sometimes that, in sober truth, they do.

I went to Upton Park to see Nottingham Forest putting on the style against West Ham and instead I saw them throw away a match, and perhaps a season, in the space of a minute.

Nottingham Forest went to Upton Park to show their style. They were totally bemused when they saw that additional qualities were required. West Ham were not without style. But the point is that they were able to put on a stylish act because of the other qualities they possessed. Visceral ones.

You do not win matches in awful weather without guts. For an hour, rain fell heavy and unrelenting. This created a surface suitable for Torvill and Dean. Forest aimed to cream off the marks for artistic impression, but instead threw themselves into the volcano in a suicide pact of doomed self-love.

West Ham scooped the marks for technical merit. They deserved them, if only for showing that style without content is an empty matter. But I must not give the impression that West Ham played the Tonya Harding role in this slip-sliding football. They put on enough style to score plenty of 5.7s for artistry, and that was more than many sides would even have attempted.

Some see such conditions as a licence to wallop the ball and chase it: which is all right so far as it goes, but it does not actually go all that far. But for all their high reputation for slick interpassing, the Forest attack could not cope with the day. The aged Martin — I don't know what he takes for it, but I'll have a large one — dealt with Collymore, supposed to be one of the most dangerous men in England, with the almost paternal regard of a long-serving policeman minding a petty criminal.

West Ham did most of the slick things, on the flanks with Holmes and Hughes, through the middle with Bishop and Moncur; a four-man unit that looked for most of the match as good as most in the country.

Halfway through the first half, two goals in a minute settled the game. The first came when Boere knocked down for Cottee to sweep in. Forest were staggering about telling each other that this was not supposed to be happening when the second came. Pearce gave away a corner for reasons that looked like panic. Martin got the knockdown this time and Bishop came through to finish.

Forest finished the half thinking, well, let's get into the dry and sort things out. With the tea already poured, they were punished for this attitude. Chettle, taking the ball out of the Forest defence, had a moment in which, as television analysts say, "his first touch let him down".

This translates as "he was unable to control the ball". Hughes swept in, ran away with the ball, and with fine pace and balance curved in on the goal and whacked home. That completed the triple salchow.

It remains to be seen what becomes of this. West Ham showed that they possessed the style and the heart to climb out of trouble at the bottom of the table. At the other end, Forest had their pretentions exposed.

The memory of that dreadful first 45 minutes will haunt them. All teams go through periods of being immortal, when everything they try works. Manchester United did a fair bit of that before winter set in last season: Forest have done a little this time.

These are wonderful times to play through, but they do not win league titles, particularly not league titles in a cold, damp and slippery land. What counts is what you do when the sense of immortality disappears. Manchester United stopped playing like gods, but the human qualities, the essential guts of Hughes and Ince, kept things going.

Forest lacked anyone capable of taking on that role on Saturday. McGregor ran through in the ninetieth minute to wallop in a deflected goal for Forest, but that will not do anyone much good except him.

As the winter quarter begins, there seems to be an increasing need for someone to do something about the dull worthies of the North West. Every week, there seems to be one team less to take them on. It seemed that Forest joined their number on Saturday.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — T Breacker, A Martin, S Potts, J Dicks — M Hughes, J Moncur (sub: M Rieper, 88min), I Bishop, M Holmes — P Cottee, J Boere (sub: M Rush, 86).
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, C Cooper (sub: P McGregor, 28), S Chettle, S Pearce — S Stone, A-I Haaland, L Bohinen (sub: K Black, 66), I Woan — S Collymore, B Roy.
Referee: D Gallagher.

Working class in no mood to help at Palace

Crystal Palace 0
Blackburn Rovers 1

BY OLIVER HOLT

SOMEONE had been sick on the long concrete ramp that runs down from the platform to the ticket office at Selhurst station. Some American visitors voiced mild disapproval as they made their way to the ground but nobody else batted an eyelid.

It was entirely predictable, as much part of the scenery at this stage of the festive season as another blank scoresheet for Crystal Palace, another doughty win for Blackburn Rovers. The home supporters hoped for some respite but nobody really expected Palace to end their run of seven successive games without a goal against the most miserly defence in the FA Carling Premiership.

"I told myself we could win before the game started," Alan Smith, the Palace manager, said. "But I suppose it was the most predictable result of the day. Blackburn do not make mistakes. They may not do things with a lot of flair but they are a team of very hard workers. I have lost track of how many games we have gone without a goal and when it gets to this stage it doesn't matter. We will be in the *Guinness Book of Records* soon."

Palace have gone more than 12 hours' playing time since they last scored, against Ipswich Town nearly two months ago. They had a half-hit shot scrambled off the line yesterday and there were a couple of goalmouth mêlées, but that was as close as they got. Preece and Armstrong showed precious little invention in attack.

The first half was unremittingly dull and Blackburn, who are now three points ahead of Manchester United at the top of the Premiership with a game in hand, looked the more competent side, but only just.

Three minutes into the second half, Sutton should have scored when Wilcox put him through but he miscontrolled the ball and allowed Martyn to smother it. He left it until 25 minutes from the end, when everyone had resigned themselves to Palace's third goalless draw in succession, to make amends.

Southgate gave the ball away in midfield, Shearer's pass freed Wilcox on the left and when his shot bounced up off Martyn's body, Sutton reacted quickest and headed the ball across goal for Sherwood to slide it into the empty net.

Ray Harford, standing in for Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, who is recovering from an appendix operation, defended his team's reputation. "We may have conceded the least amount of goals in the division but we have also scored the most. In my book, that makes us the most entertaining team in the league."

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): N Martyn — J Humphrey, C Coleman, R Shaw, D Patterson (sub: G Ndah, 68min) — D Gordon, G Southgate, P Williams, R Newman — A Preece, C Armstrong.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, C Hendry, I Pearce, G Le Saux — T Sherwood, J Wilcox, M Atkins, S Ripley — C Sutton, A Shearer.
Referee: D Elleray.

Ferguson on track to further honours



Rob Hughes sees champions who were flaunting strange colours share four goals at Southampton

In British football, where pace so often substitutes for grace, the man with two gongs can meet his match in the fellow who laments he has none. Down at The Dell on the last Saturday of 1994, Alex Ferguson OBE, CBE shook hands with Alan Ball, the 1966 World Cup winner who has blankety-blank to his name. Ferguson was relieved, to say the least, that his side, six men short of a first-team identity, had twice come from behind to finish equal in a match of scuffle, fight and spirit.

Honour, sometimes dishonour, was equal in a stadium that has been by-passed in the Taylor revolution; just 15,204 spectators can be squeezed into the Premier League's smallest, tightest, noisiest ground, and Southampton are condemned to it by the NIMBY (not in my back yard) attitude of councillors preventing a move to a new modern arena.

And in this ageing cauldron, with the spectators almost within touching distance of the players, the matches are often fractious, sometimes as ill-disciplined as this one, where five United players and two lapsed Saints were cautioned.

A pity, for the goals were spectacular. Southampton, having scored twice in each of their last five games but won only one, set about an initially lethargic United with gusto and should have scored several times before Magilton finally did so on the stroke of half-time.

The goal had origins that must have given Ball palpitations. Monkou, showing his Dutch roots, chose audaciously to back-heel the ball away from Mark Hughes and then roll it square, tantalisingly close to Cantona. The last defender, in the English code, should never attempt such a thing. Monkou got away with it, Kenna swept away up the left, and after he had skinned May, Magilton, unmarked, was able to score with a deliberate placement inside Walsh's far post.

At this stage United were as disunited as their colours were unfamiliar. They were wearing blue and white, a uniform that has nothing whatever to do with their history. The club changes its colours as often as the Chancellor puts pennies on booze, fags and petrol — swelling their own treasury at the expense of gullible fanciers of replica shirts.

But some things never change. Ferguson may have received the same New Year honour as the Rev Chad Varah, founder of the Samaritans, but his half-time address came straight from a Govan shipyard: "Stop being lackadaisical, go for their bloody throats." Ferguson admitted was his rousing speech. Some of them, notably Cantona, took it as licence to mix flair with malice.


David Hughes: unlucky

Twice within a matter of moments Cantona was flailing his fists, or rather the flat of his hand, at the faces of opponents. He was caught mud-wrestling with Monkou, and was then shown the yellow card for slapping Benali. However, this Frenchman has elegance, too, and his retribution on Benali came only after he had avoided crude attempts to cut him off at the knees, and had delivered a precise ball for Butt to score with a splendid volley, his first goal for United.

David Hughes, definitely not to be confused with the bristlingly combative Mark Hughes, has twice imprinted his scoring touch on games over the Christmas period. He had scored with a majestic overhead at Queens Park Rangers; now, gliding onto a low centre from the left from the substitue Heaney, he swept the ball high into the net with the panache normally the preserve of Le Tissier.

An interesting and educated fellow, Hughes. He stayed on at school to gain A levels in geography and biology, and then transferred from Weymouth to Southampton, only to suffer a gruelling succession of broken bone. The left shin has twice been fractured, is held together by pins, and for over a year had baffled the specialists as to the best method of surgery. And then, "just for the novelty" he broke a bone in the left foot at the start of this season.

Now 22, he is pledged to Wales. He was born in St Albans, raised in Wiltshire, but someone had traced his family tree to a Welsh grandparent, and so he has been lured to the valleys, having already worn the under-21 shirt.

He was a hero for five minutes on Saturday. For in the 79th minute, attempting to clear a Cantona corner, he miscued the ball, sliced it back to the Frenchman. Cantona's control over the ball, as not always over his temper, was immaculate; his vision was a cut above even the moments we were now experiencing from Le Tissier. He struck it so cleanly, so invitingly, that it seemed almost inevitable Pallister would deliver the hammer blow from his head, from just eight yards, to save the game.

And while talking of talents, what of Giggs? He has just come of age, he has struggled all season long with injuries, and sometimes he appears barely able to remember what it was like being a teenaged phenomenon. In the 77th minute there was a pitiable little cameo: the ball came towards him at an innocuous rate, he seemed to look at it like a stranger. It reared up, hit his shin, bobbled out of control — oh where is the genius?

When a referee who is not the most impressive under the new Fifa dictat blew his final whistle, the draw seemed fair enough to both managers. Ball believes, unlike Ferguson, that the Championship is a two-horse race, and that United have more stength in depth, their Old Trafford stadium a more intimidating place to visit, than Blackburn's Ewood Park.

Ferguson's mind was on other things. "I was enjoying the entertainment coming from your dug out," Ferguson said with teasing jocularity. "Well, I'm not telling anyone else what I said," Ball responded. "I did that at QPR, and it cost me my OBE. There's only Nobby Stiles and me got nowt from the 1966 team . . . maybe one day."

And Ferguson? Would he talk about a contested penalty appeal? "It's a man of great repute you're talking to," Fergie quipped. "I'd better keep quiet, make sure I still have that on Monday."

SOUTHAMPTON (4-3-2-1): B Grobbelaar — J Dodd, T Widdrington, K Monkou, F Benali — J Magilton, D Hughes, J Kenna — R Ekelund (sub: N Heaney, 65min), M Le Tissier — I Dowie.
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): G Walsh — D May, S Bruce, G Pallister, G Neville — N Butt, R Keane, B McClair (sub: K Gillespie, 80), R Giggs — E Cantona, M Hughes.
Referee: M Bodenham.

JULIAN HERBERT


Le Tissier, left, and Mark Hughes, whose main business is scoring goals, engage in a midfield scramble for possession at The Dell

Taylor adds drive to Villa

Manchester City 2
Aston Villa 2

BY PETER BALL

THIS result at Maine Road apparently had something for both teams. Manchester City ended a run of four successive defeats; Aston Villa's recovery from two goals down meant they have taken five points from the holiday so far, a fair return, it would seem, for a team in the relegation zone.

But instead of celebrating, both managers bemoaned the points that got away. "If we get three points against Leeds on Monday, then it's been a fair haul," Brian Little, the Villa manager, said. "But one point or no points and I wouldn't say the holiday period has been satisfactory. We were disappointed not to win today."

Having seen his side lose a two-goal lead in the space of five minutes, Horton was equally downbeat, but there was more sympathy for the Midland side. On this form it looks far too good to be stuck in its present position for long.

Little has made few changes to the team he inherited from Ron Atkinson, but those he has made suggest recovery is under way. Without losing its passing ability, the side is playing the ball forward more quickly. Equally important has been his one signing, Ian Taylor, who has given an ageing midfield a new energy. "He's steady, he works very hard, he has the ability to get into the opposition box," Little said. "It means Kevin Richardson can sit there and keep it tight in front of the back four. So there's a little bit of variety to our play now."

And indeed they are now much more purposeful than six weeks ago. But despite looking the more fluent side on Saturday, ten minutes into the second half they found themselves two goals down as City demonstrated that, whatever their other faults, they can score goals — or at least Uwe Rösler can.

The first goal was a chapter of accidents for Villa, as Lomas's shot hit Townsend, ricocheted off Staunton and fell for the German. The second goal, too, was fortunate inasmuch as there was a suspicion that Beagrie had run the ball out of play before Houghton sent him flying on the byline. But from then on the execution was perfect as Rösler met Beagrie's free kick with an irresistible header.

"When that second goal went in, with a team in our position you wonder if it's going to be a day when you won't get anything," Little said. City supporters know better. If their favourites can score goals, they leak them with equal, or even greater facility.

When the Villa goals came, Brightwell was unhappily involved in both. He was unfortunate for the first, Saunders getting only the faintest touch to Staunton's corner, which then hit the centre half and trickled into the corner of the net.

He was more culpable for the second, heading Teale's long pass to Yorke, who set up Taylor, Saunders scoring his first goal for Little from the rebound.

If that was the start of a purple patch for the Welshman, Villa's escape will soon gather further momentum. The result left City eleventh, but with the game at Newcastle today followed by cup-ties at Notts County and Crystal Palace, their problems may only just be beginning.

"Everybody's lacking a bit of confidence," the City manager said. "I don't know why after that great result at Newcastle. I've just said to them: 'You've got to go there and win again'."

MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): A Dibble — J Foster, A Kernaghan, I Brightwell, T Phelan — N Summerbee, S Lomas, G Pitcroft, P Beagrie — P Walsh, U Rösler.
ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): N Spink — E Barrett, U Ehiogu, S Teale, S Staunton (sub: J Fashanu, 89min) — R Houghton, K Richardson, I Taylor, A Townsend (sub: P McGrath, 78) — D Saunders, D Yorke.
Referee: J Worrall.

Northampton live up to lowly status

Darlington 4
Northampton Town 1

BY IVO TENNANT

EVEN clubs that perennially struggle to retain their status can muddle priorities. Northampton Town, who last season finished at the bottom of the Endsleigh Insurance League for the first time since their foundation in 1897, have built themselves a spanking new stadium. It is of little use without a manager or any sort of team.

Only Scarborough lie beneath Northampton, who last week dismissed their manager, John Barnwell, of Wolverhampton Wanderers fame. On Saturday, they conceded a goal in the very first minute and never looked like beating Darlington. Northampton remain a League club only because Kidderminster did not have the facilities to replace them; they are not likely to be so fortunate again.

Last season, Darlington were slugging it out with them. Now, nine points out of the last 12 have taken them to relative safety. Theirs is no new stadium and the floodlighting is just about the dimmest anywhere. Yet there is a friendliness about the place. A few miles away, snow was covering the Dales. When the sun disappeared behind the terracing, it became as cold as it can be at a football ground.

Darlington played raw, direct football that was lauded not by some blue-chip sponsor but through a man-of-the-match award from a working men's club.

This went, rather surprisingly, to Reed, a defender, whereas Darlington's victory owed much to the incisive attacks of Slaven, Gaughan and Worboys. Slaven's opening goal — a jackknife header — belonged to a higher level.

For a team in Northampton's predicament, considerable reserves of guts and skill would have been needed to do weather that setback. They have a temporary manager in Peter Morris, formerly of Mansfield Town. At least he wants the job. There cannot be many who do.

DARLINGTON (4-3-3): M Pollitt — M Appleby, A Crosby, A Reed, G Hemsworth — I Banks (sub: S Shaw, 58min), S Gaughan, P Olsson — G Worboys, B Slaven, P Kirkham (sub: G Chapman, 72).
NORTHAMPTON TOWN (4-3-3): B Stewart — I Sampson, R Warburton, R Cutte, D Norton — L Cahill, G Harrison, G Williams — I Brown, W Palmore (sub: M Akinbiyi, 67), N Grayson.
Referee: G Cain.

Cockerels begin to strut

Coventry City 0
Tottenham Hotspur 4

BY PAT GIBSON

TOTTENHAM Hotspur will not be risking any new year celebrations until Arsenal have been first-footing at White Hart Lane tonight, but whatever happens in the North London derby, they can look forward to more happiness and prosperity in 1995 than they dared dream of less than two months ago.

When Gerry Francis took over from Osvaldo Ardiles as manager in November, they were effectively in the bottom four of the FA Carling Premiership and out of the FA Cup. Now a run of eight games without defeat, coupled with the removal of the six-point deduction and Cup ban, has put Wembley and a place in Europe in their sights.

Not that Francis has his head in the clouds. Like all successful managers, he made defensive stability his first priority and it was this which gave the freewheeling Barmby and Anderton, Sheringham and Klinsmann the confidence to take Coventry apart in the second half.

It was hard not to sympathise with Coventry. They have lost three central defenders, Busst, Pressley and Gillespie, as well as the strikers, Dublin and Ndlovu, and their attempt to plug the gaps by playing five men at the back blew up in their faces as early as the seventh minute when one of them, Darby, headed an Anderton corner into his own goal.

After that it was really only a matter of time before fluid movement and perceptive passing created the scoring opportunities which Barmby, Anderton and Sheringham accepted with considerable aplomb.

The goals were all the result of good players working selflessly for each other and this is what pleased Francis the most. "I looked at many tapes of Tottenham when I arrived and the goals that were going in were frightening," he said. "But it was not a case of blaming the people directly involved. You defend as a team and you attack as a team."

As for Coventry, they have only half a team at the moment and as the first snowflakes fluttered over Highfield Road, their manager, Phil Neal said ominously: "It's going to be a long, hard winter." A departing spectator caught the mood. "Our only hope," he said, "is to play the England cricket team."

COVENTRY CITY (5-3-2): S Ogrizovic — A Pickering, J Darby, B Borrows, P Williams, S Morgan — C Jones, M Marsh, P Cook (sub: M Hall, 75min) — S Flynn, R Wegerle (sub: M Quinn, 72).
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell — D Anderton, G Popescu (sub: S Nethercott, 82), D Howells, N Barmby (sub: R Rosenthal, 82) — J Klinsmann, E Sheringham.
Referee: G Ashby.

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هكذا من الاصل

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

ARSENAL (0) 1 **QPR** (1) 3
Jensen 64 — Gallen 3, Allen 76, Impey 77
32,393

Arsenal: V Bartram, L Dixon, N Winterburn, J Jensen, S Bould, M Keown, K Campbell, I Wright, A Smith (sub: A Clarke, 75min), S Schwarz, R Parlour.
Queen's Park Rangers: A Roberts, D Bardsley, A McDonald, D Maddix, C Wilson, A Impey, S Barker, S Hodge, M Meaker, L Ferdinand (sub: B Allen, 47), K Gallen.
Referee: G Willard

CHELSEA (0) 1 **WIMBLEDON** (0) 1
Furlong 57 — Ekoku 68
16,105

Chelsea: D Kharine, S Clarke, J Kjeldbjerg, E Johnsen, F Sinclair, J Spencer, P Furlong, M Stein, G Peacock, N Spackman (sub: G Hoddle, 79min), E Newton.
Wimbledon: H Segers, W Barton, V Jones, R Earle, E Ekoku, D Holdsworth (sub: A Clarke, 72), A Kimble, C Perry, B Harford, A Thorn, K Cunningham.
Referee: K Morton.

COVENTRY (0) 0 **TOTTENHAM** (1) 4
19,951 — Darby (og) 7, Barmby 67, Anderton 77, Sheringham 81

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, S Morgan, P Williams, K Pickering, J Darby, M Flynn, M Marsh, P Cook (sub: Hall, 75min), R Wegerle (sub: M Quinn, 70), C Jones.
Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Austin, S Campbell, G Popescu (sub: S Nethercott, 83), C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, D Anderton, D Howells, N Barmby (sub: R Rosenthal, 63), J Klinsmann, E Sheringham.
Referee: G Ashby.

C PALACE (0) 0 **BLACKBURN** (0) 1
14,232 — Sherwood 65

Crystal Palace: N Martyn, D Humphrey, D Gordon, R Shaw, C Coleman, D Patterson (sub: G Ndah, 67), G Southgate, R Newman, P Williams, C Armstrong, A Preece.
Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, H Berg, C Hendry, I Pearce, G Le Saux, M Atkins, S Ripley, T Sherwood, A Shearer, C Sutton, J Wilcox.
Referee: D Elleray

EVERTON (1) 4 **IPSWICH** (1) 1
Ferguson 26, Rideout 70, 74, Watson 90 — Sedgley 9
25,659

Everton: N Southall, D Jackson, D Burrows, D Unsworth, D Watson, B Horne, J Parkinson, J Ebbrell, K Hinchcliffe, D Ferguson, P Rideout.
Ipswich Town: C Forrest, A Vaughan, J Wark (sub: P Whelan, 45min), D Linighan, P Mason (sub: S Slater, 73), F Yallop, S Palmer, A Kiwomya, S Sedgley, C Thomsen, B Guentchev.
Referee: R Dilkes.

LEEDS (0) 0 **LIVERPOOL** (1) 2
38,563 — Redknapp 18, Fowler 78

Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, D Wetherall, J Pemberton, A Dorigo (sub: N Worthington, 61min), G Strachan (sub: D White, 63), G McAllister, L Radebe, G Speed, N Whelan, P Masinga.
Liverpool: D James, R Jones, J Scales, N Ruddock, P Babb, S Bjornebye, S McManaman, J Redknapp, J Barnes, I Rush, R Fowler.
Referee: A Wilkie.

LEICESTER (0) 0 **SHEFF WED** (1) 1
20,624 — Hyde 40

Leicester City: K Poole, S Grayson, N Whitlow, C Hill, J Willis, M Draper, S Thompson, A Agnew (sub: M Blake, 67min), L Philpott, D Oldfield (sub: D Lowe, 53), I Roberts.
Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, P Atherton, I Nolan, C Waddle (sub: D Petrescu, 67), M Bright, J Sheridan, A Pearce, C Bart-Williams, G Hyde, D Walker, G Whittingham (sub: G Watson, 81).
Referee: M Reed.

MAN CITY (1) 2 **A VILLA** (0) 2
Rosler 14, 54 — Brightwell (og) 55, Saunders 59
22,513

Manchester City: A Dibble, C Lomas, T Phelan, I Brightwell, A Kernaghan, G Flitcroft, N Summerbee, J Foster, P Beagrie, P Walsh, U Rosler.
Aston Villa: N Spink, E Barrett, S Staunton (sub: J Fashanu, 88min), S Teale, U Ehiogu, K Richardson, R Houghton, Taylor, A Townsend (sub: P McGrath, 78), D Saunders, D Yorke.
Referee: J Worrall

NORWICH (2) 2 **NEWCASTLE** (1) 1
Adams 1, Ward 10 — Fox (pen) 40
21,172

Norwich City: A Marshall, G Goss, N Adams, J Polston, R Newsome, D Sutch, I Crook (sub: R Newman, 75min), M Milligan, R Ullathorne, M Sheron (sub: J Cureton, 59), M Ward.
Newcastle United: P Srnicek, B Venison, J Beresford, D Howey, G Peacock, D Watson (sub: L Clark, 65), P Bracewell, R Lee, R Fox, A Cole, P Kitson.
Referee: B H Hill.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2 **MAN UTD** (0) 2
Magilton 44, Hughes 74 — Butt 51, Pallister 78
15,204

Southampton: B Grobbelaar, J Kenna, F Benali, J Magilton, K Monkou, M Le Tissier, I Dowie, D Hughes, T Widdrington, R Ekelund (sub: N Heaney, 66min), K Dodd.
Manchester United: G Walsh, S Bruce, G Pallister, E Cantona, B McClair (sub: K Gillespie, 79), M Hughes, R Giggs, D May, R Keane, N Butt, G Neville.
Referee: M Bodenham

WEST HAM (3) 3 **NOTTM FOR** (0) 1
Cottee 25, Bishop 27, Hughes 45 — McGregor 90
20,644

West Ham United: L Miklosko, T Breacker, A Martin, S Potts, J Dicks, I Bishop, J Moncur (sub: M Rieper, 88min), T Cottee, J Boere (sub: M Rush, 87), M Holmes, M Hughes.
Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle, S Pearce, C Cooper (sub: P McGregor, 30), S Chettle, L Bohinen (sub: K Black, 65), S Collymore, S Stone, I Woan, A-I Haaland, B Roy.
Referee: D J Gallagher



Butt: First Premiership goal for Manchester United

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	FAC	CCC	Euro	Other	Total
*Ward (Norwich)	12	4	1	0	4	21
Fowler (Liverpool)	18	0	2	0	0	20
Shearer (Blackburn)	17	0	2	1	0	20
Wright (Arsenal)	11	0	3	5	0	19
Sutton (Blackburn)	13	0	3	1	0	17
Le Tissier (Southampton)	11	0	5	0	0	16
Klinsmann (Tottenham)	11	0	4	0	0	15
Cole (Newcastle)	9	0	2	4	0	15
Ferdinand (OPR)	12	0	1	0	0	13

* Includes 17 for Crewe Alexandra

NEW YEAR MATCHES

AN ANALYSIS of the New Year's Day fixtures for the past six seasons reveals several interesting trends. Arsenal and Wolverhampton Wanderers share the best record with four wins and one draw each. Arsenal, with 11 goals, have one of the best scoring records, alongside Brentford, Coventry City, Southend United and West Bromwich Albion, although Stockport County are the leading team for goals with 12. Blackburn Rovers, the FA Carling Premiership leaders, are a good bet for a win with a record of three wins and two draws, a sharp contrast to Manchester United, who have one win and three goals from the same fixtures.

Lincoln City have the worst record — four losses and one draw, and a solitary goal — but are not alone with four defeats. Watford are the only other club with one goal, while supporters at Walsall, Southampton and Scunthorpe United must dread this Bank Holiday: Walsall have conceded 14 goals and the two other clubs 12. Oldham Athletic are the draw specialists with four out of five, and Derby County have managed a single strike in each of their five matches.

Best record	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Arsenal	3-0	—	1-1	1-0	4-1	2-0
Wolves	1-0	—	2-0	0-0	4-1	3-1
Scarborough	1-0	3-1	4-1	0-0	2-0	1-3
Blackburn	1-0	—	2-1	0-0	2-2	4-3
Bradford	1-0	0-0	1-1	3-1	2-2	1-0
Brentford	0-0	—	1-0	3-0	4-0	3-3
Plymouth	1-0	—	3-2	1-1	2-2	1-0
Worst record	**1994**	**1993**	**1992**	**1991**	**1990**	**1989**
Lincoln	0-1	—	0-1	0-0	0-2	1-2
Preston	2-2	—	0-1	0-2	1-2	0-1
Mansfield	0-1	0-0	2-3	1-2	0-4	0-0
Southampton	0-1	—	1-2	0-1	4-2	1-6
Chesterfld	1-2	—	0-2	0-1	0-1	3-1
Notts Co	2-4	—	0-1	2-1	0-1	0-1
Portsmouth	0-2	—	2-3	5-1	2-3	0-2
Watford	1-2	—	0-0	0-0	0-2	0-1
Chester	0-0	1-3	0-0	—	0-1	1-3
Man City	0-2	—	1-1	0-1	0-2	0-0

Results are for league matches only, played on January 1 (except in 1989 and 1993 when the bank holiday fixtures fell on January 2).

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Blackburn	21	8	0	1	27	8	7	4	1	18	7	49	+29
2 Man Utd	22	9	1	1	23	3	5	3	3	19	16	48	+23
3 Liverpool	22	7	3	0	20	5	5	3	4	20	14	42	+21
4 Newcastle	21	6	3	0	23	9	6	3	4	17	15	39	+16
5 Nottm For	22	6	3	2	19	11	5	3	3	16	12	39	+12
6 Tottenham	22	4	3	4	18	17	5	3	3	20	17	33	+4
7 Norwich	22	7	3	1	16	8	2	3	6	5	11	33	+2
8 Leeds	21	6	3	2	16	11	3	2	5	13	16	32	+2
9 Sheff Wed	22	4	4	3	14	11	4	2	5	15	19	30	-1
10 Chelsea	22	4	3	4	18	11	4	2	5	11	19	29	-1
11 Man City	22	5	4	2	27	16	3	1	7	6	22	29	-5
12 Wimbledon	22	6	1	4	16	16	2	4	5	10	20	29	-10
13 Arsenal	22	3	4	4	13	13	4	3	4	13	12	28	+1
14 QPR	22	5	2	4	20	18	2	4	5	14	20	27	-4
15 Soton	22	4	4	4	16	16	2	4	4	17	22	26	-5
16 West Ham	22	6	2	3	13	8	1	2	8	6	16	25	-5
17 Coventry	22	4	4	4	10	15	2	3	5	11	23	25	-17
18 C Palace	22	2	3	6	6	12	3	5	3	9	9	23	-6
19 Everton	21	4	5	3	18	15	1	2	6	2	14	22	-9
20 Aston Villa	22	2	5	3	10	10	2	4	6	17	23	21	-6
21 Leicester	22	3	4	5	15	17	0	2	8	6	20	15	-16
22 Ipswich	22	2	1	8	13	22	1	3	7	8	24	13	-25

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

BARNSLEY (1) 1 **WOLVES** (2) 3
Redfearn (pen) 21 — Dennison 1, Mills 4, Emblen 75
9,207

BURNLEY (2) 5 **SOUTHEND** (0) 1
Saville 27, Gayle 34, Bressington (og) 51, Davis 85, Robinson 90 — Willis 71
10,561

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0 **LUTON** (0) 1
6,249 — Telfer 71

OLDHAM (1) 1 **SWINDON** (1) 1
Halle 45 — Ling 24
8,917

READING (0) 1 **GRIMSBY** (1) 1
Lambert 86 — Shakespeare 27
8,526

SHEFF UTD (0) 3 *PORTSMOUTH* (1) 1
Blake 46, 47, Scott 81 — Creaney 33
13,467

STOKE (1) 1 **MIDDLSBRO** (1) 1
Gleghorn 20 — Vickers 9
15,914

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 **DERBY** (0) 1
Gray 46 — Johnson 61
13,979

TRANMERE (2) 2 **BRISTOL C** (0) 0
Jones 7, Irons 42 — 7,439

WATFORD (1) 3 **PORT VALE** (1) 2
Foster 31, Musselwhite (og) 56, Ramage 90 — Foyle 16, 62
7,794

WEST BROM (1) 1 **BOLTON** (0) 0
Hunt 41 — 18,184

Yesterday

CHARLTON (0) 1 **MILLWALL** (1) 1
Robinson 52 — Rae 33
10,665

SECOND DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (5) 7 **BLACKPOOL** (1) 1
Bradshaw (og) 12, Donowa 25, 64, Claridge 37, 73, Lowe 53, Parris 86 — Bradshaw 8
18,025

BRENTFORD (1) 2 **OXFORD UTD** (0) 0
Forster 34, Taylor 80 — 7,125

BRISTOL R (2) 3 **CHESTER** (0) 0
Archer 14, 71, Stewart 20 — 5,629

CREWE (0) 3 *L ORIENT* (0) 0
Clarkson 59, Murphy 72, Bellamy (og) 75 — 3,792

HULL (1) 2 **BRIGHTON** (1) 2
Brown 33, Windass 74 — Minton 12, Akinbiyi 70
5,099

PETERBORO (1) 2 **CAMBRIDGE UTD** (1) 2
Charlery 16, 84 — Lillis 19, 81
7,412

ROTHERHAM (1) 2 **CARDIFF** (0) 0
Monington 43, Breckin 67 — 3,064

STOCKPORT (0) 1 **BRADFORD** (1) 2
Francis 88 — Shutt 2, Taylor 46
4,613

SWANSEA (0) 1 **HUDDERSFIELD** (0) 1
Torpey 87 — Booth 72
5,438

WYCOMBE (0) 1 *BOURNEMOUTH* (1) 1
Carroll 90 — Robinson 15
5,990

Postponed: Shrewsbury v Plymouth, York v Wrexham

THIRD DIVISION

CHESTRFIELD (0) 1 **LINCOLN** (0) 0
Robinson 55 — 3,325

COLCHESTER (0) 2 **HEREFORD** (2) 2
Stoneman 76, Whitton 88 — Brough 12, Whitton (og) 38
3,332

DARLINGTON (1) 4 **NORTHMPTN** (0) 1
Slaven 2, Banks 48, Gaughan 51, Shaw 68 — Grayson 72
2,250

GILLINGHAM (0) 0 **CARLISLE** (0) 1
3,682 — Walling 71

HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 **FULHAM** (1) 2
Southall (pen) 19 — Cusack 42, Brazil 64
1,898

MANSFIELD (1) 3 **BARNET** (0) 0
Donaldson 31, 77, Ireland 47 — 2,891

PRESTON (0) 1 **SCARBORO** (0) 0
Smart 79 — 8,407

SCUNTHORPE (2) 4 **ROCHDALE** (0) 1
Mudd 11, Bullimore (pen) 45, Eyre 57, Thompstone 89 — Butler 87
2,653

WALSALL (0) 1 **DONCASTER** (0) 0
Marsh 77 — 4,561

Postponed: Bury v Torquay; Exeter v Wigan

SENDINGS OFF

First division: Gridelet (Southend) 79; Harrison (Southend) 79; Bressington (Southend) 85. **Third division:** Brabin (Doncaster) 36.

GOALSCORERS

First division: 20 Fjortoft (Swindon). 19 Aldridge (Tranmere). 14 Hendrie (Middlesbrough); Whyte (Charlton). 13 McCarthy (Oldham); McGinlay (Bolton). 12 Malkin (Tranmere); Creaney (Portsmouth); Foyle (Port Vale); Scott (Stoke) (12 for Swindon). 11 Gray (Sunderland); *Kelly (Wolverhampton). 10 Bull (Wolverhampton).* 9 Woods (Grimsby); Paatelainen (Bolton).
Second division: *23 Bennett (Wrexham). 19* Moody (Oxford Utd); Stewart (Bristol Rovers). 18 Booth (Huddersfield); Goater (Rotherham). 16 Forster (Brentford). 14 Barnes (York); Stant (Cardiff); Taylor (Brentford); Jepson (Huddersfield). 13 Jewell (Bradford); Francis (Stockport); Corazzin (Cambridge Utd); Charlery (Peterborough); Miller (Bristol Rovers)
Third division: 18 Reeves (Carlisle). 17 Freedman (Barnet). 16 Lightbourne (Walsall). 15 Wilkinson (Mansfield). 13 Carter (Bury). 12 White (Hereford). 11 Whitton (Colchester); Wilson (Walsall). 10 Whitehall (Rochdale); Cooper (Barnet).

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

ABERDEEN (2) 3 **HEARTS** (0) 1
Shearer 13, 52, Inglis 28 — Thomas 66
10,500

CELTIC (0) 2 **FALKIRK** (0) 0
Grant 70, Walker 76 — 21,295

HIBERNIAN (3) 4 **DUNDEE UTD** (0) 0
Wright 2, 14, 58, O'Neill 41 — 7,763

MOTHERWELL (0) 1 *RANGERS* (1) 3
McGrillen 64 — McCall 43, Laudrup 66, Durie 89
11,269

PARTICK (2) 2 **KILMARNOCK** (1) 2
McDonald 1, 6 — Maskrey 36, MacPherson 63
7,003

FIRST DIVISION

AIRDRIE (0) 0 **DUNFERMLINE** (0) 0
3,252

AYR (1) 1 **HAMILTON** (2) 2
Dowe 44 — Clark 32, McInulty 36
2,079

CLYDEBANK (0) 2 **STRANRAER** (2) 3
Murdoch 82, Flannigan 87 — Grant 10, Henderson 22, Ferguson 83
769

DUNDEE (1) 4 **ST MIRREN** (0) 0
Hamilton 1, Shaw 77, 79, 83 — 3,500

RAITH (1) 2 *ST JOHNSTONE* (0) 0
Broddle 6, Dalziel 79 — 4,973

SECOND DIVISION

BERWICK (1) 1 **STIRLING** (0) 0
Banks (pen) 29 — 723

BRECHIN (0) 0 **CLYDE** (2) 2
502 — McCluskey 14, McKenzie 26

EAST FIFE (1) 2 **MEADOWBANK** (1) 1
Scott 44, Hutchon 88 — Sorbie 29
752

G MORTON (0) 1 **QUEEN OF SOUTH** (0) 1
Rajamaki 52 — Jackson 79
2,112

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1 **DUMBARTON** (0) 0
Steel 57 — 700

THIRD DIVISION

ALBION (0) 0 **ROSS COUNTY** (0) 1
354 — Williamson 64

ALLOA (2) 2 *QUEEN'S PARK* (2) 3
Lamont 27, Moffat 42 — Callan 11, Edgar 16, Maxwell 72
541

EAST STIRLING (0) 1 **ARBROATH** (0) 0
Geraghty 59 — 436

FORFAR (0) 1 **COWDENBEATH** (1) 1
Hannigan 90 — Yardley 21
603

Postponed: Caledonian Thistle v Montrose

SENDINGS OFF

Premier division: Grant (Partick) 90. **First division:** Jack (Airdrie) 19. **Second division:** Neil (Berwick) 73. **Third division:** Graham (Queen's Park) 89.

GM CONFERENCE

ALTRINCHAM (0) 3 **HALIFAX** (1) 1
Terry 68, Green 82, 88 — Hanson 22
1,058

BROMSGROVE (0) 0 **TELFORD** (0) 1
1,108 — Wilson 84

DAG & RED (1) 2 *KETTERING* (0) 1
Sorrell 21, Bennett 76 — Arnold 75
1,002

DOVER (0) 1 **FARNBOROUGH** (1) 1
Leworthy 81 — Read 42
1,222

MACCLESFIELD (1) 1 **STAFFORD** (1) 2
Power 33 — May 36, 59
1,432

MERTHYR (0) 1 **WOKING** (0) 1
Jones 85 — Abraham (og) 64
664

NORTHWICH (0) 2 **SOUTHPORT** (0) 1
Butler 67, O'Connor 75 — Haw 82
1,208

STALYBRIDGE (0) 1 *KIDDERMINSTER* (1) 3
Jackson 88 — Yates 45, 82, Webb 55
821

STEVENAGE (1) 3 **BATH** (0) 0
Roberts (pen) 45, Venables 57, Hayles 67 — 1,471

Postponed: Yeovil v Welling.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
		HOME					AWAY					
1 Macclesfield	24	9	3	2	25	11	6	2	2	19	10	50
2 Woking	24	6	5	2	29	18	6	1	4	13	13	42
3 Gateshead	26	7	3	4	18	9	5	3	4	17	21	42
4 Kidderminster	25	5	4	3	20	13	6	4	3	24	21	41
5 Altrincham	23	6	1	6	23	17	6	3	1	26	12	40
6 Southport	24	8	2	2	33	12	4	2	6	9	17	40
7 Bromsgrove	24	5	4	3	22	18	5	1	6	15	18	35
8 Halifax	21	6	2	1	23	7	3	4	5	15	22	33
9 Stevenage	24	6	2	5	26	19	4	1	6	12	13	33
10 Kettering	24	6	3	3	18	12	3	3	6	14	16	33
11 Stalybridge	25	7	1	4	18	16	2	4	7	16	28	32
12 Farnborough	24	4	2	4	10	14	5	3	6	14	21	32
13 Northwich	22	3	5	3	20	16	4	5	2	22	17	31
14 Bath	26	5	2	5	21	21	3	4	7	13	24	30
15 Telford	22	6	5	0	17	8	1	3	7	11	21	29
16 Dover	22	3	7	1	14	9	3	3	5	10	13	28
17 Welling	23	5	2	5	20	20	3	2	6	14	23	28
18 Dag & Red	24	4	3	5	14	18	3	3	6	12	22	27
19 Runcorn	24	5	4	2	18	14	2	2	9	13	32	27
20 Merthyr	23	6	2	5	22	18	1	3	6	10	21	26
21 Stafford	24	2	1	7	16	20	3	4	7	16	33	20
22 Yeovil	24	3	2	7	14	17	1	5	6	10	23	18

Yeovil deducted 1 point

GOALSCORERS

Scottish Premier: 15 Coyne (Motherwell). 14 Hateley (Rangers). 11 O'Neill (Hibernian). 9 *Robertson (Hearts); Booth (Aberdeen).*
First division: 17 O'Boyle (St Johnstone). 16 Dalziel (Raith); Petrie (Dunfermline). 15 Britton *(Dundee).* 13 Duffield (Hamilton).
Second division: 13 Scott (East Fife). 10 Hawke (Berwick). 9 Mooney (Dumbarton); Alexander (G Morton); Lilley (G Morton).
Third division: 22 Yardley (Cowdenbeath). 14 Kennedy (Montrose) 12 McGlashan (Montrose)

EUROPEAN RESULTS



Barbosa, of Vitoria Guimares, gets to grips with Afonso, of Belenenses, during his team's 2-1 victory in the Portuguese first division match.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Belenenses 1 Guimaraes 2; Tirsense 2 Uniao Leiria 1; Beira Mar 1 Uniao Madeira 1; Boavista 1 Porto 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
FC Porto	15	12	2	1	29	7	26
Sporting	15	11	4	0	28	9	26
Benfica	14	9	2	3	26	10	20
Tirsense	15	10	0	5	19	10	20
Guimaraes	15	7	4	4	22	20	18
Maritimo	14	7	3	4	20	15	17
Boavista	15	7	2	6	21	22	16
Braga	15	6	4	5	16	18	16
Leiria	15	6	3	6	18	21	15
Beira Mar	15	6	1	8	15	20	13
Belenenses	15	4	4	7	14	15	12
Chaves	15	4	4	7	14	26	12
Salgueiros	15	5	2	8	16	20	12
Farense	15	4	3	8	14	22	11
Amadora	15	2	6	7	17	20	10
Gil Vicente	15	3	4	8	11	17	10
Uniao	15	2	5	8	13	29	9
Setubal	15	0	5	10	16	28	5

Bellmare take all-Japan title

KOJI NOGUCHI scored twice in the second half as Bellmare Hiratsuka beat Cerezo Osaka 2-0 to win the all-Japan football championship. Bellmare qualified to represent Japan in the 1995 Asia Winners' Cup.

Noguchi scored in the second minute of the second half and again in the 41st minute before 48,000 spectators at the national stadium in Tokyo.

In Japan's 12-team professional football league, known as the J-League, Bellmare finished second in the 1994 second stage behind Verdy Kawasaki, who went on to win the overall J-League title.

Cerezo Osaka, champions of the Japan Football League, which is second to the J-League in status, gained a surprise 1-0 win over Verdy last month in the second game of the all-Japan tournament, a competition open to any team.

NON-LEAGUE AND REGIONAL LEAGUES

NORTHERN PREM

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Accrington Stanley 0 Morecambe 4 Hyde 3 Whitley Bay 0; Witton 2 Horwich 1. Postponed: *Chorley v Buxton;* Gainsborough v Spennymoor; Guiseley v Emley.

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Marine	27	21	5	1	55	16	68
Morecambe	25	17	4	4	57	26	55
Guiseley	23	15	6	2	52	29	51
Witton	26	9	11	6	32	32	38
Boston Utd	23	10	7	6	37	23	37
B Auckland	23	10	5	8	40	28	35
Colwyn Bay	22	11	2	9	48	44	35
Barrow	23	11	2	10	40	37	35
Gainsboro	24	9	7	8	42	35	34
Hyde	21	9	6	6	36	30	33
Spennymoor	23	9	5	9	35	33	32
Winsford	27	8	7	12	39	47	31
Buxton	26	8	8	12	35	40	30
Knowsley	21	7	7	7	36	34	28
Emley	24	7	7	10	33	40	28
Horwich	26	8	3	15	37	45	27
Chorley	24	7	5	12	38	51	26
Ac Stanley	23	5	8	10	24	43	23
Matlock	20	6	1	13	24	38	19
Whitley Bay	25	4	7	14	29	55	19
Frickley	21	3	8	10	25	39	17
Droylsden	23	4	5	14	29	58	17

First division: Blyth Spartans 1 Ashton 4, Curzon Ashton 2 Eastwood Town 0; *Farsley Celtic 5 Goole 1.* Postponed: Atherton LR v Gretna, Bamber Bridge v Caernarfon, Lancaster v Warrington.

BEAZER HOMES

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton 0 Halesowen 0, Cambridge City 2 Crawley 1, Chelmsford 1 Hednesford 2, Corby 0 Atherstone 0; Gloucester 2 Leek 0, Gravesend and Northfleet 2 Dorchester 1, Hastings 0 Rushden and Diamonds 2; Solihull 1 Sudbury 1 VS Rugby 6 Gresley 3, Worcester 2 Cheltenham 2. Postponed: Trowbridge v Sittingbourne.

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hednesford	21	14	5	2	53	23	47
Cheltenham	19	11	4	4	43	19	37
Gloucester	19	11	4	4	40	18	37
Leek Town	21	10	6	5	41	25	36
Rushden & D	19	10	5	4	47	30	35
Dorchester	18	10	3	5	37	23	33
Worcester	21	9	6	6	25	18	33
Burton	19	8	7	4	27	23	31
Gresley	20	9	4	7	41	39	31
Halesowen	22	6	7	9	40	43	25
Cambridge	19	7	4	8	22	26	25
Gravesend & N	18	6	5	7	18	24	23
Chelmsford	16	6	4	6	26	20	22
Crawley	21	6	4	11	31	48	22
Hastings	16	5	6	5	20	21	21
Trowbridge	18	4	8	6	21	26	20
Atherstone	22	4	8	10	22	34	20
Solihull	19	4	8	7	18	30	20
Sudbury	20	5	5	10	25	42	20
VS Rugby	20	4	6	10	22	34	18
Sittingbourne	20	4	6	10	18	32	18
Corby Town	20	2	3	15	13	58	9

Midland division: Armitage 1 Stourbridge 2. Bilston 1 Buckingham Town 0; Bridgnorth 2 Sutton Coldfield 1; Dudley 1 Hinckley 1, Forest Green 2 Moor Green 2, Grantham 0 Newport AFC 4; Leicester 1 King's Lynn 5; Nuneaton 4 Tamworth 3 Redditch 2 Ilkeston 3, Rothwell 1 Evesham 0. Postponed: RC Warwick v Bedworth. Southern division: Baldock 0 Burnham 0 Fisher 93 3 Erith and Belvedere 1; Poole 0 Havant 3, Salisbury 0 Newport IOW 3, Tonbridge AFC 0 Braintree 2 Weymouth 3 Fareham 1 Yate 1 Weston-super-Mare 1

Postponed: Clevedon v Bashley; Waterlooville v Wealdstone; Witney v Margate.

DIADORA LEAGUE

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Dulwich 1 Enfield 2; Grays 0 Aylesbury 2; Hendon 0 Carshalton 1; Marlow 2 Harrow 0, Slough 4 Bromley 1; St Albans 3 Hitchin 3, Sutton United 0 Wokingham 2, Yeading 0 Molesey 4. Postponed: *Chesham v Kingstonian*

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hayes	20	13	6	1	36	16	45
Slough	21	11	6	4	41	30	39
Enfield	21	10	7	4	46	26	37
Bromley	22	10	7	5	40	31	37
Carshalton	23	11	4	8	41	41	37
Aylesbury	18	10	3	5	37	20	33
St Albans	20	9	6	5	57	46	33
Harrow	22	9	3	10	33	35	30
Purfleet	20	8	5	7	38	39	29
Dulwich	21	8	5	8	38	40	29
Molesey	20	8	4	8	30	30	28
Yeading	19	7	6	6	38	35	27
Grays	23	6	9	8	31	35	27
Hendon	22	6	7	9	30	34	25
Sutton Utd	23	6	6	11	33	36	24
Chesham	20	6	5	9	35	37	23
Bishop's S	20	5	7	8	28	42	22
Walton & H	16	5	6	5	29	28	21
Kingstnian	18	4	6	8	29	36	18
Hitchin	18	3	8	7	25	34	17
Marlow	21	3	7	11	24	42	16
Wokingham	20	3	3	14	20	46	12

First division: Aldershot Town 2 Staines 2, Billericay 1 Berkhamsted 0, Boreham Wood 1 Newbury 0, Chertsey 8 Dorking *0, Heybridge Swifts 0 Worthing 1, Leyton* 3 Uxbridge 2, Maidenhead 1 Basingstoke 3; Wembley 1 Wivenhoe 2 *Whyteleafe 1 Ruislip Manor 1.* Second division: Aveley 1 Witham 1; Barton 6 Cheshunt 0, Egham 1 Banstead 2 *Hungerford 3 Tilbury 1, Leatherhead 0* Edgware 2 Metropolitan Police 0 Croydon 3; Oxford City 1 Bracknell 1; Saffron *Walden 1 Windsor and Eton 2;* Ware 1 Thame 2. Postponed: Hemel Hempstead v Hampton, Malden Vale v *Chalfont St Peter.* Third division: Bedford Town 4 Hornchurch 2, Camberley 0 Hertford 0; Canvey Island 1 Horsham 0; *Collier Row 4 Flackwell Heath 1 Harlow 1* Feltham and Hounslow 4, Leighton 0 Harefield 0, Lewes 2 Cove 1; Northwood *4 East Thurrock 0. Postponed: Epsom* and Ewell v Clapton.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Burscough 4 Trafford 0 Glossop North End 0 Prescot 2 St Helens 3 Salford 0 Postponed: Bradford Park Avenue v Kidsgrove; Chadderton v Darwen, Clitheroe v Newcastle Town; Penrith v Eastwood Hanley; Rossendale v Bacup.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier *division: Ford 0 Sawbridgeworth 4* Stansted 2 Brentwood 2. Postponed: Eton Manor v Basildon, Romford v Bowers, *Southend Manor v Burnham* Ramblers

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN *LEAGUE:* First division: Eppleton CW 0 Durham 1 Hebburn 4 Prudhoe 1. Postponed: Chester Le Street v *Consett: Dunston FB v West Auckland;* Guisborough v Ferryhill; Northallerton v Whitby: Seaham Red Star v Murton, *Shildon v RTM Newcastle*

HEREWARD SPORTS: United Counties League: First division: Blisworth 5 Bourne PW 3; Daventry 2 St Neots 3, Ford Sports 3 ON Chenecks 4; Higham 1 Bugbrooke 2; Northampton Vanaid 11 Harrowby 1; Ramsey 2 Olney 4; St Ives 5 Cottingham 0; Thrapston 4 British Timken 1. Whitworths 7 Shambrook 0.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Bideford v Elmore.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Afc Totton 4 AFC Lymington 2; Aerostructures 0 Brockenhurst 3. BAT 1 *Wimborne 3;* Bemerton Heath 4 Christchurch 0; East Cowes Vics 2 Ryde Sports 1; Gosport 0 Fleet 1 Postponed: *Horndean v Eastleigh; Swanage and* Herston v Bournemouth; Thatcham v Portsmouth RN.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Meadonians 0 Glyn 1 Wilsonians 5 Danes 3; Hamptonians *0* Cardinal Manning 1. Senior first division: Tiffinians 2 Isleworthians 3; Suttonians 2 *Wokingians 4. Senior second division:* Minchenderians 5 Tollingtonians 2; Enfield 5 Westhamians 3 Southallians 1 *Meadonians 5, Ignatians 1 Manorians 7.* Senior third division: Phoenix 3 Vaughanians 6 Alpertonians 1 *Greenfordians 1. London Old Boys* Senior Cup: Postponed: Aloysians v Brentwoods

Premier div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Glyn OB	9	6	1	2	24	10	13
Aloysians	9	6	0	3	23	13	12
Ignatians	8	5	1	2	21	14	11
Meadonians	6	4	1	1	15	5	9
C Manning OB	7	4	1	2	18	13	9
Tensonians	8	4	1	3	16	15	9
Wilsonians	11	4	1	6	18	23	9
Clapham OX	11	3	2	6	25	39	8
Hamptonians	9	4	1	4	17	24	7
Danes	6	1	2	3	11	17	4
Chertsey OS	10	1	1	8	17	32	3

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: First division: Postponed: Catford v Metpol Chigwell, Craven v Cray Valley; Leyton County v Beckton; Woodford v Clapton Villa.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST: Football League: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 3 Sheffield 0; Belper Town 3 *Lincoln 4;* Brigg 0 Ossett Town 0 Hallam 2 Stocksbridge PS 2. Hucknall 2 Denaby 3; Liversedge 3 Pontefract Col 3; Maltby MW 4 Arnold 5; Ossett Albion 0 North Ferriby 1, Thackley 1 Ashfield 4. Postponed: Glasshoughton Welfare v Pickering.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Ash 0 Sandhurst 2; Bedfont 0 Ashford 3; Cobham 4 Westfield 0 Eton Wick 2 *Farnham 0 Peppard 2 Hartley Wintney 2.* Postponed: Cranleigh v Godalming and Guildford, DCA Basingstoke v Viking Sports, Horley v Merstham; Netherne v Chipstead.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: *First division:* Dudley Sports 1 Colletts Green 4: Jaguar-Daimler 0 Kings Norton Ex Serv 1; *Massey Ferguson 3 Polesworth NW 2;* Monica Star 2 Barlestone St Giles 2 Thimblemill REC 2 Harris Hall 1 Postponed: Southam v Badsey; Wilmcote v Bilston Community College.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 4 Southend 2; Cambridge Utd 0 Norwich 0; Charlton 0 Gillingham 0 QPR 1 *Tottenham 2;* Watford 2 Fulham 1. Postponed: Leyton Orient v Ipswich; Portsmouth v Chelsea. Second division: *Bournemouth 1* Southampton 1, Brentford 3 Colchester 2 Tottenham 3 Reading 2; Wycombe 0 Wimbledon 6. Postponed: Bristol v Bristol; Crystal Palace v Luton; Swindon v Oxford.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Old *Esthameians 2 Winchmore Hill 0;* Midland Bank 3 NatWest Bank 0; Old Salesians 2 Merton 0.

First div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
South Bank Poly	10	8	1	1	23	8	17
O Esthameians	11	7	1	3	25	15	15
Civil Service	10	5	2	3	16	14	12
East Barnet OG	8	4	2	2	15	14	10
Old Actonians	8	3	3	2	14	12	9
Norsemen	9	4	1	4	12	10	9
Crouch End	9	3	3	3	15	14	9
NatWest Bank	8	4	0	4	12	15	8
West Wickham	11	2	4	5	6	11	8
Midland Bank	9	2	3	4	16	16	7
Winchmore Hill	10	1	5	4	12	19	7
Old Latymerians	9	0	1	8	7	25	1

NATIONAL

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 2 Barry 2 Ton Pentre 0 Caersws 2. Postponed: Afan Lido v Inter Cardiff; Conwy v Flint Town; Holywell v Bangor City; Newtown v Rhyl; Porthmadog v Connah's Quay.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bangor City	18	14	2	2	48	12	44
Newtown	18	10	6	2	45	19	36
I Cardiff	18	9	6	3	34	20	33
Ton Pentre	16	10	2	4	35	21	32
Cwmbran	19	10	1	8	31	28	31
Afan Lido	15	9	3	3	28	20	30
Flint Town	18	9	2	7	38	27	29
Rhyl	19	9	2	8	38	33	29
Llansantffraid	19	8	3	8	35	31	27
Holywell	17	7	5	5	31	26	26
Mold	21	8	2	11	38	47	26
Porthmadog	18	7	4	7	33	28	25
Caersws	19	7	4	8	35	34	25
Ebbw Vale	18	8	1	9	26	25	25
Barry Town	17	6	6	5	30	28	24
Connah's Q	19	6	6	7	26	27	24
Conwy	19	6	4	9	26	34	22
Llanelli	20	3	3	14	33	71	12
Aberystwyth	17	0	6	11	20	42	6
Maesteg Park	19	0	4	15	11	63	4

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards 3 *Linfield 1; Ballyclare 1 Crusaders 2;* Carrick 2 Ballymena 1; Cliftonville 1 Bangor 1; Coleraine 1 Omagh 1; *Glentoran 3 Larne 1.* Postponed: Newry v Glenavon; Portadown v Distillery.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Crusaders	16	12	3	1	35	15	39
Portadown	18	9	1	6	34	21	28
Glenavon	15	7	4	4	31	20	25
Linfield	16	7	4	5	29	19	25
Coleraine	16	5	9	2	28	23	24
Ards	16	7	3	6	29	26	24
Glentoran	16	6	5	5	25	22	23
Carrick	16	6	5	5	38	37	23
Bangor	16	5	7	4	23	17	22
Cliftonville	15	6	4	5	17	18	22
Distillery	16	6	4	6	26	27	22
Omagh Town	15	4	7	4	19	17	19
Ballymena	15	5	3	7	22	25	18
Ballyclare	16	3	2	11	17	34	11
Newry	14	1	5	8	16	35	8
Larne	16	2	2	12	11	41	8

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Derry 2 Monaghan 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Cork City	18	10	3	5	37	23	33
Derry City	20	9	6	5	24	22	33
St Patricks	20	8	8	4	35	20	32
Dundalk	20	9	5	6	21	18	32
Shamrock	19	8	6	5	30	21	30
Shelbourne	20	8	6	6	24	21	30
Bohemians	20	7	7	6	28	20	28
Sligo Rovers	20	7	6	7	29	25	27
Galway Utd	20	7	5	8	27	36	26
Cobh Ramblers	20	3	7	10	18	33	16
Monaghan Utd	20	4	4	12	14	40	16
Athlone Town	19	2	9	8	17	25	15

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Middlesbro	25	9	1	2	23	9	5	5	3	16	13	48	39
2 Wolves	25	9	1	2	25	11	4	3	6	20	21	43	45
3 Tranmere	25	10	2	1	31	13	2	4	6	9	15	42	40
4 Reading	25	5	6	2	15	9	6	2	4	18	14	41	31
5 Sheff Utd	25	8	3	2	23	10	3	4	5	17	16	40	40
6 Bolton	25	8	3	1	22	8	3	4	6	16	21	40	38
7 Barnsley	25	8	3	2	21	11	3	2	7	8	19	38	29
8 Luton	25	3	3	6	17	18	7	4	2	18	12	37	35
9 Oldham	25	7	4	2	23	13	3	2	7	13	19	36	36
10 Watford	25	7	5	1	19	11	2	4	6	9	17	36	28
11 Millwall	25	6	4	2	21	13	3	4	6	11	17	35	32
12 Stoke	25	6	4	3	21	11	3	4	5	7	18	35	28
13 Grimsby	25	6	4	2	19	12	2	6	5	16	23	34	35
14 Southend	25	8	1	3	16	9	2	3	8	11	33	34	27
15 Derby	24	5	4	2	14	8	3	4	6	11	15	32	25
16 Charlton	24	5	4	4	20	16	2	5	4	16	20	30	36
17 Sunderland	25	2	8	3	12	12	4	4	4	14	13	30	26
18 West Brom	25	8	2	2	14	8	0	4	9	8	24	30	22
19 Burnley	22	3	5	3	17	15	3	4	4	9	14	27	26
20 Swindon	25	5	5	3	19	17	1	3	8	13	24	26	32
21 Portsmouth	25	3	4	5	14	17	3	4	6	12	21	26	26
22 Port Vale	24	5	3	4	17	14	1	4	7	11	20	25	28
23 Bristol C	25	4	3	5	12	16	2	1	10	8	20	22	20
24 Notts Co	25	3	4	6	13	17	1	2	9	9	19	18	22

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Birmingham	23	7	4	1	29	8	7	3	1	17	6	49	46
2 Oxford Utd	23	8	2	1	18	9	6	2	4	23	17	46	41
3 Wycombe	23	7	4	1	18	9	6	2	3	17	16	45	35
4 Huddersfld	23	8	2	1	21	10	4	5	3	22	19	43	43
5 Brentford	23	8	0	4	24	9	5	2	4	19	12	41	43
6 Crewe	23	8	1	3	26	18	4	3	4	18	23	40	44
7 Hull	23	8	1	3	24	11	4	3	4	14	17	40	38
8 Bristol R	22	7	5	0	29	12	3	4	3	9	35	39	38
9 Bradford	23	5	2	4	14	14	6	2	4	19	19	37	33
10 Stockport	23	6	1	5	18	15	5	2	4	17	16	36	35
11 Swansea	23	5	5	2	13	7	4	4	3	17	16	36	30
12 Wrexham	22	6	3	2	22	13	3	4	4	18	18	34	38
13 Blackpool	23	7	1	3	19	15	3	2	7	15	26	33	34
14 Peterboro	23	2	6	4	15	22	5	3	3	16	17	30	31
15 York	22	6	2	3	20	12	2	3	6	8	13	29	28
16 Rotherham	23	7	2	3	21	15	1	2	8	8	16	28	29
17 Brighton	23	4	5	2	11	8	2	4	6	13	21	27	24
18 Cambridge	23	5	3	3	20	16	0	4	8	9	23	22	29
19 Shrewsbury	22	4	3	4	18	15	2	1	8	9	15	22	27
20 Cardiff	23	2	3	6	11	14	3	2	7	14	22	20	25
21 Plymouth	21	2	2	6	9	22	3	1	7	11	24	18	20
22 L Orient	23	4	3	4	11	10	0	1	11	5	25	16	16
23 Chester	23	3	2	6	12	21	0	2	10	4	21	13	16
24 Bournemth	23	2	2	7	11	22	0	3	9	7	25	11	18

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Carlisle	22	9	2	0	22	5	8	2	1	22	10	55	44
2 Walsall	22	8	1	2	25	11	4	6	1	15	10	43	40
3 Bury	21	7	4	1	17	7	5	1	3	14	8	41	31
4 Barnet	22	5	4	1	20	10	6	1	5	10	17	38	30
5 Chesterfield	22	6	4	2	11	5	5	1	4	18	19	38	29
6 Doncaster	22	6	3	1	19	7	4	4	4	13	11	37	32
7 Colchester	22	5	3	4	18	20	5	3	2	13	11	36	31
8 Mansfield	22	5	2	5	22	14	5	2	3	21	16	34	43
9 Scunthorpe	22	5	2	4	20	13	4	3	4	14	15	32	34
10 Preston	21	6	0	4	17	9	4	2	5	12	14	32	29
11 Torquay	21	5	5	1	20	14	3	2	5	10	13	31	30
12 Fulham	22	3	3	4	13	11	4	5	3	12	16	29	25
13 Darlington	22	5	2	5	18	16	3	2	5	10	13	28	28
14 Lincoln	22	5	4	2	18	12	2	1	8	9	16	26	27
15 Rochdale	22	4	2	4	14	15	3	2	7	15	32	25	29
16 Hartlepool	22	5	1	6	13	17	1	4	5	6	14	23	19
17 Exeter	21	5	2	4	16	16	1	2	7	2	16	22	18
18 Hereford	22	3	2	5	9	12	2	3	7	19	32	20	28
19 Gillingham	22	4	3	4	14	12	1	2	8	11	21	20	25
20 Wigan	20	2	2	5	14	15	3	2	6	12	18	19	26
21 Northamptn	22	2	3	6	9	14	1	6	4	8	14	18	17
22 Scarboro	22	1	3	8	11	18	2	1	9	9	24	13	20

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Rangers	19	7	1	1	16	4	6	2	2	20	10	42	+22
2 Motherwell	19	4	4	2	18	15	4	4	1	15	11	32	+7
3 Hibernian	19	5	5	0	28	9	1	6	2	4	7	29	+11
4 Celtic	18	3	4	2	10	9	2	6	1	9	7	25	+3
5 Falkirk	19	3	3	3	11	13	2	5	3	14	16	23	-4
6 Hearts	18	5	2	2	14	6	1	1	7	9	22	21	-5
7 Kilmarnock	19	3	3	3	9	8	1	5	4	11	18	20	-6
8 Dundee Utd	18	3	4	2	13	12	2	1	6	8	20	20	-11
9 Aberdeen	19	3	5	2	15	11	1	2	6	7	13	19	-2
10 Partick	18	2	3	4	12	14	1	2	6	4	17	14	-15

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Dundee	19	7	3	0	22	8	5	1	3	13	12	40	+15
2 Dunfermline	19	7	1	1	22	4	2	6	2	14	13	34	+19
3 Airdrie	18	4	5	0	13	2	5	2	2	17	12	34	+16
4 Raith	19	4	5	1	19	14	3	3	3	11	8	29	+8
5 St Johnstn	19	5	3	1	17	7	1	5	4	10	17	26	+3
6 Hamilton	18	4	2	3	13	14	2	3	4	6	13	23	-8
7 Clydebank	18	3	2	4	13	11	1	4	4	6	13	18	-5
8 St Mirren	18	3	2	4	9	10	0	6	3	7	14	17	-8
9 Ayr	19	2	5	3	13	16	0	2	7	2	19	13	-20
10 Stranraer	19	2	4	3	7	8	1	0	9	8	27	13	-20

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Stenhsmuir	18	4	5	0	10	3	4	3	2	12	11	32	+8
2 Berwick	18	7	2	0	12	5	2	2	5	17	22	31	+2
3 G Morton	18	5	3	1	16	6	3	2	4	8	11	29	+7
4 East Fife	18	5	1	3	20	14	3	3	3	7	12	28	+1
5 Dumbarton	18	6	1	2	19	7	2	2	5	8	14	27	+6
6 Clyde	18	3	4	2	18	11	4	1	4	10	10	26	+5
7 Stirling	18	4	1	4	13	10	4	1	4	11	13	26	+1
8 Queen of S	18	3	1	5	14	14	2	4	3	6	10	20	-4
9 Meadwbank	18	3	2	4	9	8	3	2	4	13	14	19	0
10 Brechin	18	1	1	7	8	18	1	1	7	4	20	8	-26

Meadowbank deducted 3 points.

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Forfar	17	7	2	0	17	7	4	0	4	7	10	35	+7
2 Montrose	17	6	1	2	18	8	4	3	1	13	7	34	+16
3 E Stirling	18	5	1	3	17	11	5	2	2	19	13	33	+12
4 Alloa	18	3	3	3	11	11	5	3	1	19	11	30	+8
5 Cowdenbth	18	3	4	2	15	12	5	1	3	16	10	29	+9
6 Caledonian	17	3	3	2	15	16	4	2	3	12	11	26	0
7 Ross Co	17	3	1	4	15	15	4	3	2	10	7	25	+3
8 Queen's Pk	18	2	1	6	9	16	2	2	5	13	16	15	-12
9 Arbroath	18	0	2	7	2	13	3	0	6	18	23	11	-16
10 Albion	18	1	0	8	8	21	1	2	6	7	19	8	-25

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	3	1½	3	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1½	3	3	2½	3	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½

FORECAST: Telephone claims required for 23½ and 24pts. The dividend forecast is for a possible jackpot with eight jackpot draws, seven high-score draws and one no-score draw

هكذا في الأصل

Rangers unfazed as Jensen finally hits target

Arsenal 1
Queens Park Rangers .. 3

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

IN THE 63rd minute, 20 yards out and with but one option, John Jensen let fly. The ball curled gently at first, still destined to trim the far post like so many before, but then arched dramatically into the top corner. The crowd went wild, the scorer was submerged amid a pile of disbelieving team-mates and the Arsenal had equalised.

At Highbury on Saturday, after 28 months and 97 and a bit matches, Jensen had scored his first goal for Arsenal, the club he joined from Brondby for £1.1 million or £1.57 million, depending on your source of information, in August 1992.

It was a momentous occasion, heightened by the interminable wait. Jensen's two near misses earlier in the game — one effort superbly saved by Roberts, the other shaving the crossbar — and the eventual classic calibre of the strike. This, surely, would rid Arsenal of their apathy.

Twelve minutes later Impey centred from the right and Allen jabbed Queens Park Rangers ahead again. A minute further on, Bardsley's hanging cross jammed Bartram's radar and Impey nipped in to nod home from a sharp angle. End of Arsenal fightback, end of their hopes of a first home League win since October 23.

"The best team won," George Graham, the Arsenal manager, conceded. "I was delighted to see John score, and it gave us a lift for a while, but all our best efforts came from midfield players and defenders. It wasn't enough."

Spot on. Rangers' front pair of Gallen and Ferdinand, and, from the 47th minute, the cute-sounding Gallen and Allen, possessed too much mobility and agility for the often static Arsenal markers. Impey, underrated, yet effervescent, provided a constant supply of good service while Meaker, another Ranger in the limelight, scurried purposely in the second half.

"I am thrilled," Ray Wilkins, the Rangers player-manager, said, clearly delighted with his fourth victory in eight matches since succeeding Gerry Francis at Loftus Road. "Maybe the players have at last proved to a lot of people and, more important, themselves that they can beat most of the teams in this league."

In contrast to the clarity and ingenuity of Rangers, Arsenal were pedestrian and predictable. Their passing was poor and they never adequately recovered from Gallen's sweet third-minute finish from Ferdinand's low cross.

So, welcome 1995. Seaman will return from injury to replace the jittery Bartram; Adams, the captain, will recover from the surgeon's knife; Merson may re-emerge, a cleansed soul from his self-inflicted fantasy world, and Graham, may emerge unscathed from the FA Premier League inquiry, European Cup Winners' Cup, Coca-Cola Cup and FA Cup adventures also beckon. Happy new year, George.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): V Bartram — L Dixon, M Keown, S Bould, N Winterburn — R Parlour, J Jensen, S Schwarz, K Campbell — A Smith (sub: A Clarke, 74min), I Wright.
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): A Roberts — D Bardsley, A McDonald, D Medicki, C Wilson — M Meaker, S Barker, S Hodge, A Impey — K Gallen, L Ferdinand (sub: B Allen, 47).
Referee: G Willard.

Wilkinson brought down to earth by Liverpool

Leeds United 0
Liverpool 2

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

SUPPORTING a football team, Howard Wilkinson observed after Liverpool had beaten his with something to spare, is not a rational pastime. The Leeds United manager should know. Where he was once fêted as a latter-day Salome, who delivered Manchester United's head on a championship platter, he is now char-grilled on the coals of terrace opinion.

Elland Road is restive. Although Wilkinson talks of the club's ability to "relaunch" itself, spectators who note the diminution of playing resources since that championship in 1992 are not united in the belief that he is the man to supervise Mission Apollo.

Neither, one gathers, are those members of the board who feel that Gordon Strachan, who retires at the end of the season, is ripe for promotion. This match proved, satisfactorily if not overwhelmingly, that of two sides that have spent the year in realignment, Liverpool are now streamlined and confident; Leeds are stagnant.

It was Liverpool who ensured that Leeds would be champions nearly three years ago when they beat Manchester United at Anfield. Wilkinson's attempts to reinforce that team have not been inspired. Rocastle came and went. Batty and Cantona were traded to rivals. In have come Deane, White, Palmer and Worthington, who have not got a teaspoonful of the Frenchman's talent. Strachan, 38 next month, is on his last legs. McAllister, pleasing as he is, is really a lightweight.

In his discourse, Wilkinson takes his audience on a giddy verbal tour, hoping to lose listeners in a fog of sub-clauses, or leaving them to trip over a skilfully concealed *mot juste*. It can go something like this: "The players allowed the disappointment of the crowd to affect their ability to compete." Or this: "We were affected by the crowd, by the scoreline. You could see confidence evaporate ... almost there to see and consequently the game, to me, finished in a manner which was nowhere near a reflection of the true ability of the two teams." Translated, this might mean: we played badly but Liverpool were still a bit lucky.

Actually, they were not. Theirs is a team in transition but it is good enough to finish in the top three and reach Wembley. The passing and movement that gave the club's best sides their distinction is returning. Everyone is happy with the ball, even James, who showed it to Masinga when other goalkeepers would have hoofed it high into the stand, and beat him.

Earlier this season Liverpool were playing well without winning the points to show for it. In recent weeks they have been more fortunate and over Christmas they hit the beach running. Redknapp's first league goal of the season, from a first-half free kick, and Fowler's eighteenth, 15 minutes from time, provided their third successive victory and they begin 1995 four points behind Manchester United.

Leeds were culpable each time. Lukic got his right hand to Redknapp's shot and his left to Fowler's, which was set up by Wetherall's misdirected header. It was Wetherall, charging into Rush from behind, who conceded the kick that led to the first goal. Pemberton, just as clumsy, was booked for a similar challenge on the Liverpool captain.

Rush, who is not noticeably less sharp in his 34th year, remains an outstanding player and a fine example to younger men. He caught the eye, as did Barnes, with his eagerness to be involved every kick of the way. No wonder Fowler and McManaman have come on as they have. The seriousness of purpose about Liverpool's football commands admiration.

Leeds, intermittently engaged in the first half when Masinga went close with a nice curling shot, submitted meekly. Strachan was withdrawn and Dorigo tweaked a hamstring. Their replacements were White, that most ordinary forward, and Worthington, every inch the dogged old pro. One's first instinct was of astonishment that he is still among us, but he turns out to be something of a regular.

Almost an hour passed afterwards before Wilkinson appeared in the smart press suite, smiling. He had done "some washing" in the dressing-room, he said, to clean things up before they went to Aston Villa. If he is wise he will have left some Persil in the can for another day.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): J Lukic — G Kelly, D Wetherall, J Pemberton, T Dorigo (sub: N Worthington, 61min) — G Strachan (sub: D White, 62), G McAllister, L Radebe, G Speed — N Whelan, P Masinga.
LIVERPOOL (5-3-2): D James — R Jones, J Scales, N Ruddock, P Babb, S Bjornebye — J Redknapp, J Barnes, S McManaman — I Rush, R Fowler.
Referee: A Wilkie.

Keegan's record blighted by cruel twists of fortune



David Miller sees an exceptional display of goalkeeping virtually end Newcastle's League title hopes

There may be only a year and a half to go before the Football Association has to find a replacement for Terry Venables as England coach, given his alleged preference to move up to become the FA's technical director. The decline of Newcastle's form, with one victory in their past ten games, has done little to assist Kevin Keegan's eligibility as successor.

It has done even less for Newcastle's prospects of winning the Premiership title for the first time since 1927, though this season's wretched run of injuries is primarily to blame, absolving the manager of responsibility for the likely disappointment.

After a thoroughly undeserved 2-1 defeat at Carrow Road, in which it was calculated that Norwich had only eight minutes of possession in the second half, Keegan refused to be downhearted, but admitted his men must probably wait another year for honours.

"That was the best we've played for two months and we got nothing," he said. "The championship has gone out of the window. We've varied between brilliant and ordinary. To win the league you have to be consistent, and that's something we haven't shown.

"Maybe Manchester United and Blackburn haven't played as well as us, but they haven't played as poorly recently. You need to be somewhere in between.

"You can't afford to have the sort of run we've been having if you are going to be serious title contenders. No disrespect to Norwich, but these are the sort of places you should come to and win if you want to win the championship."

Newcastle have indeed been an exhilarating side since Keegan, together with Terry McDermott, took charge in 1992. Last season they finished third, scoring a blistering 82 goals, and when I saw them at home to Chelsea in September, winning 4-1, they looked as if few would hold them. Keegan had now strengthened the side with the addition of the defenders Albert from Anderlecht, for £2.6 million, and the Swiss Hottiger, from Sion, for a bargain £520,000.

But an appalling sequence of injuries followed, including, at different times, Malcolm Allen, the Wales forward (all season), Bracewell (for the rest of the season), Clark, Cole, Fox, Howey, Lee, Peacock, Sellars and, in training last Friday, Albert, with a torn knee ligament that will keep him out for the rest of the season.

Yet even without off-field problems Keegan was needing to confirm his own consistency in the managerial arena if he were to be a serious contender for England coach in the future, never mind his outstanding playing record. This had included some reservations about his temperament as captain.

Yet as manager at St James' Park he has seldom been less than sunny and positive and it is unfortunate that this season has been knocked sideways by misfortunes outside his control, unless Newcastle can win the FA Cup for the first time in 40 years. It could still be said that, at present lying fourth in spite of all, Keegan has done well to hold his squad together so far.

On Saturday he was ungrudging towards Norwich, who owed their victory almost exclusively to an exceptional, if at times fortuitous, performance by Andy Marshall, their 19-year-old deputy in goal. "He had a fantastic match and good luck to him," Keegan said. "The boy saved everything. That's how careers are born."

Marshall, a former apprentice, had come on as substitute last Monday at Nottingham when Gunn broke an ankle. He had been at fault with Forest's winning goal, but now made amends, on his home debut in front of a full house of 21,000, with a display that had an equal measure of skill and good fortune and which benefited also from Newcastle's inadequate finishing.

"He [Marshall] grew in stature as the game went on," John Deehan, the Norwich manager said. Marshall is expected to continue against Liverpool today in spite of Simon Tracey having been signed on a month's loan from Sheffield United.

As Keegan admitted, Newcastle made a sloppy start — "with a midday kick-off, maybe some of the lads had their minds on New Year's Eve parties," he jested — so that Norwich were one up after a minute and two up after ten. The defence was dozing when a free kick by Crook was headed home by Adams, and then Ward, struck by a mishit shot by Milligan, quickly reacted to drive the ball home for his fourth goal in five matches.

Now Norwich, who are well able to sit back on a lead, defended securely, penetrated only when Ullathorne fouled Kitson five minutes before half-time and Fox briskly scored from the penalty spot for Newcastle's first goal in five hours' play. That seemed to be the springboard for a second-half revival by Newcastle, but it was now that Marshall came into his own with a string of eight saves from Kitson, Lee, Venison, and the luckless Cole, who has now gone seven matches without scoring. This, as much as anything, is the key to Newcastle's decline.

It seemed Cole must score when he evaded Polston, but Marshall somehow saved with his legs and then had the luck to find the ball bouncing back into his arms when Beresford struck a post in the 76th minute.

"We were creative, and the players gave everything they had but you expect to put chances away, and we didn't," Keegan said. Norwich's central defender, Newsome, reflected that they had "not been under such pressure all season".

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): A Marshall — D Sutch, J Newsome, J Polston, R Ullathorne — M Milligan, I Crook (sub: R Newman, 73min), N Adams, J Goss — A Ward, M Sheron (sub: J Cureton, 59).
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): P Srnicek — B Venison, S Howey, D Peacock, J Beresford — R Fox, R Lee, P Bracewell, S Watson (sub: L Clark, 65) — P Kitson, A Cole.
Referee: B Hill.

MARC ASPLAND



Former team-mates. Fox, left, and Goss renew acquaintance at Carrow Road

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Blackburn	21	49	+29	WWDWW
2	Manchester Utd	22	46	+23	WLWDD
3	[illegible]	22	42	[illegible]	[illegible]
4	Newcastle	21	39	[illegible]	[illegible]
5	Notts Forest	22	39	[illegible]	[illegible]
6	[illegible]	22	35	[illegible]	[illegible]
7	Norwich	22	33	+2	WWLLW
8	Leeds	21	32	+2	LDWDL
9	[illegible]	22	30	-1	LLWWW
10	Chelsea	22	29	-1	LDLLD
11	Manchester City	22	29	-5	LLLLD
12	[illegible]	22	[illegible]	-10	WDWWD
13	Arsenal	22	[illegible]	+1	WLDWL
14	QPR	22	[illegible]	-4	LWDDW
15	Southampton	22	[illegible]	-5	LWLDD
16	[illegible]	22	[illegible]	-5	DWDLW
17	Liverpool	22	25	-17	LDDLL
18	Crystal Palace	22	23	-6	DLDDL
19	Everton	21	22	-9	WDDLW
20	Aston Villa	22	21	-6	DLDWD
21	Leicester	22	15	-16	LDLDL
22	Ipswich	22	12	-25	LDDLL

Change: Up — Stayed the same — Down

Clubs on minor stage face major problems

Peterborough United 2
Cambridge United 2

BY KEITH PIKE

DWINDLING support, embarrassing defeats, trailing in the opposition's wake: the passing of 1994 will not have been mourned at London Road. And then there are Peterborough and Cambridge who, like John Major — a guest on Saturday — face 1995 with little more than survival in mind.

There will, eventually, be a new Prime Minister, and there may, just as soon, be a new premier, too, and it is that which threatens clubs like those in opposition here and so many of their colleagues in the lower reaches of the Endsleigh Insurance League. A second division élite with no relegation — *Premier League II: The Son of Greed*, perhaps — would, inevitably, mean the death knell for one or two famous, faded football clubs.

"The Football League have given us a reassurance, personally signed by Gordon McKeag, the chairman, telling us that it is definitely not going to happen," Steve Greenall, the Cambridge secretary, said, "but it is the talk of the boardrooms, and the rumblings are that everything is not going to be OK. If the big clubs want it to happen, I think it will happen, and it would be devastating for the likes of Cambridge and Peterborough."

And Oxford United, Swansea City, Preston North End ... the list of those clubs who would not be on the Premier League mailing list, whose grounds are substandard or whose potential level of support is deemed inadequate, would take in many of those who have had their seasons of fame.

If permanent exclusion from the game's hierarchy looms, then now, most certainly, is not the time to be moderate. Two seasons ago, Peterborough and Cambridge were in the first division, from where the bulk of the clubs for the extended Premiership would be drawn. Both have since been relegated — indeed, both may struggle to survive in the second this season — but, for them, the timing of the fall has been particularly bad.

Then there are Wycombe Wanderers, more recent additions to a league Peterborough and Cambridge themselves joined only in the last 35 years, and their like. "The mission of every club is to get to the top," Greenall said. "If the incentive is taken away, if a club at grass roots is told, 'No matter how much you spend on your ground, no matter how good your team, you will not be able to get to the peak', then the game could die on its feet."

Aptly, perhaps, this one on Saturday did, too. Four goals and some low-key local rivalry failed to redeem a match in which the ability to control the ball and pass it to a team-mate was rare.

Symmetry in the scoreline was reflected in the goalscorers. Charlery, Peterborough's captain and best player, scored first and last with a lob and a late diving header. Lillis got both for Cambridge in between.

PETERBOROUGH UNITED (4-3-3): F Barber — K Ashley, G Breen, S Clark, A Spearing, M Erdon, A Kelly, D Morrison, K Charlery, A Furnell, L Henry (sub: S Farrell, 68min).
CAMBRIDGE UNITED (3-4-1-2): J Shefield — A Jeffrey, D O'Shea, J Craddock, M Joseph, M Hyde, J Fowler, D Barrick, C Corazin, J Hunter (sub: D Hay, 72), J Lillis.
Referee: J Kirby.

Golac's schemes seem foreign to Tannadice

If football affords the rare opportunity to combine contemplation with desperation. After the 4-0 defeat by Hibernian at Easter Road on Saturday, Dundee United, who play Aberdeen this afternoon, must begin a frantic quest for points while also finding time for soul-searching. For the second season in a row the club can feel the relegation swamp sucking at its ankles.

There are footballing errors to be analysed and players to be scolded, but it is the very structure of United that requires extended examination. All the issues converge in discussion of the manager, Ivan Golac, who was appointed in 1992. Recent coverage has given the impression that, in the manner of a game of snap, he and the directors will test one another's reflexes. Can he slap down his letter of resignation before they give him the sack?

Perhaps matters are not quite so lurid, but the board may feel obliged to act if the slither to the foot of the premier division continues. In any case, Golac's contract with United expires in the summer and, given the tense tone of statements from Tannadice, neither party is eager to renew it. Press rumination on the identity of his successor is underway, with claims that Tommy McLean, brother of the United chairman, Jim, could be lured from his position with Heart of Midlothian.

The weak results during Golac's tenure strengthen speculation. His effervescent personality can be charming and even dotty proclamations that inform us that United will win the league or that his Trinidadian discovery, Jerren Nixon, will imminently be worth £10 million have their uses. They are gestures of defiance against the drabness and defeatism found elsewhere in Scottish football.

It was surely an infusion of his bravado that assisted United to their admirable victory over Rangers in the Tennent's Scottish Cup final last season. Yet, most of the time, his side has been wretched and at present occupies eighth place in the table.

There is a tendency to burble about the need for the fresh ideas of foreign coaches. In practice, however, few require their work permits for long. The cosmopolitan Dr Jozef Venglos, one recalls, lasted a bare year with Aston Villa. It may be that the manager's position is the wrong one for such men. Battle-hardened old pros are hardly the people best equipped to absorb new thinking about the game. Continental figures might have a greater chance of altering British football if they were, instead, given a more diffuse role in organising youth development programmes at clubs.

These men do not even have the benefit of local knowledge as they grapple with the league programme. Golac has been too busy flailing to spare time for the reshaping of United. However, the manager implied last week that he has not been given enough scope by his employers.

"I have been frustrated," he said, "in my attempts to bring in players and sell others. I believe I should get on with that part of the job without going to the board all the time."

Jim McLean's wintery response was to suggest that Golac should share his thoughts with the club's directors rather than the press. The chairman has been known to dish out some searing invective to any journalist who suggests there is antagonism between himself and his manager. Even so, it is now clear that Golac, at least, is unhappy with the division of responsibilities.

Bringing in a new manager will not by itself solve that structural problem. Any replacement of worth would surely require greater independence than McLean seems willing to permit. The chairman, of course, worked extraordinary feats in the 22 years when he was United manager. Now, however, his intransigent style threatens to become an obstacle to the club to which he has devoted his life.

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

One of the many men previously to have been embroiled in dispute with McLean gave a commanding performance for Motherwell on Saturday. The Fir Park side did lose 3-1 at home to Rangers, who now enjoy a virtually unassailable ten-point lead, but Miodrag Krivokapic, at 35, became virtually the first premier division marker to reduce Brian Laudrup from the preternatural to the merely effective.

Robinson to the rescue

Charlton Athletic 1
Millwall 1

BY ALYSON RUDD

FORGET raw eggs and hair of the dog, the perfect new year's hangover cure is a noon kick-off on a crisp, clear day. This was the only fixture yesterday; a cunning device by the local police to avoid the crowd disturbances that so often mar this London derby.

An almost uneventful first half did enough to sober everyone into a fit state to appreciate a scintillating second period where the action flowed from end to end and the final outcome always hung in the balance.

Charlton Athletic began the match, as they do so often, with some nice ideas but very little muscle. They should have taken the lead after 16 minutes when Leaburn missed an open goal after Mortimer had worked an opening down the left flank.

Whyte, too, wasted an excellent opportunity, heading a Bennett cross straight at Keller in the Millwall goal. Charlton's pretty, passive and gentle lay-offs were quickly getting them nowhere.

To underline the point Rae stepped in with a fierce, accurate 25 yard strike, the directness of which stunned the entire Charlton defense, including Salmon in goal, to give Millwall the lead.

Millwall had won their six previous matches and looked certain to be heading for a seventh. However, the home side emerged after the interval with armour plating and a glint in its eyes.

Seven minutes into the second half they equalised. Robinson heading in Robson's cross from the left. Alan Curbishley, joint manager of Charlton, said it was the battling spirit of his team that had pleased him the most, having seen the side "outfought physically" too often at home.

Suddenly, both sets of players forgot they had missed out on their New Year's Day roast lunch and determinedly pressed for the three points. Robinson came close when his strike, after the ball had been cleared from a corner, found Kellar unsighted, but the American goalkeeper dived to his left in the nick of time.

Rae attempted, at 76 minutes, to make an impact with another long-range shot, this time left-footed, but hooked the ball wide. A minute later Whyte lobbed Kellar from 25 yards but hit the crossbar.

A couple of minutes from time, Mortimer fell inside the area under a challenge from Dawes but Kenneth Leach, the referee, opted to give Dawes the benefit of the doubt. Even Curbishley thought Mortimer might have been "looking for it a little bit".

Honours, then, remained even, although Millwall remain the form side of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): M Salmon — M Bennett, P Chapple, McCleary, T Mortimer — J Robinson (sub: G Nelson, 78min), K Jones, C Walsh (sub: S Newton, 57min), M Robson — C Leaburn, D Whyte.
MILLWALL (4-4-2): K Kellar — I Dawes, T Miller, D Webber, B Thatcher — D Savage (sub: D Chapman, 57), A Rae, A Roberts, J Van Blerk — R Carlette (sub: J Kerr, 87), D Mitchell.
Referee: K Leach.

CARLING PREMIERSHIP
Endsleigh League
BELL'S

Neath leave Cardiff clinging to table top by fingertips


Walker: bumpy ride

Neath.....21
Cardiff.....3

BY GERALD DAVIES

THIS Heineken league victory for Neath was as predictable beforehand as it was inevitable during its 80 minutes' duration. Some fixtures are like that. Depending on when it is staged, the relative positions of the clubs, the psychological conditions, how motivated they are, the fact that one appears much superior and has made the title seem to belong to them, has no bearing on the outcome against a team that has had its ups and downs.

In fact, the wider the difference the better. Cardiff had beaten Neath by nearly 40 points in September.

Cardiff's progress meant that a little over a week ago they were four points ahead and, had they beaten Pontypridd three days before Christmas, they would have made their position unassailable. But they lost. To recover their equilibrium they had to visit Neath. And the Fosters Gnoll, as we are advised to call it, is no place to recover a reputation; certainly not for Cardiff, not even at their best.

The bigger Cardiff seem to be and the faster their reputation leads the way, the more Neath seem to like it. Thus, the team from the capital city, where all roads and ambitions lead, were heading for the 1995 title. Neath, on the other hand, where all motorways seem to bypass and whose inhabitants tend to feel neglected, rubbed their hands with glee in happy and confident anticipation. They knew, too, that Cardiff were without three of their most prominent forwards: Emyr Lewis, Hemi Taylor and Derwyn Jones.

On Saturday the inevitable duly happened. Nigel Walker, returning to the Cardiff wing after an absence since November, described his team's changed condition this way: "Ten days ago we were travelling smoothly down the motorway in our Mercedes Benz. After today, we are hobbling along in our horse and cart. And the wheels are coming off."

Losing by a goal, a try and three penalties to a penalty has allowed Pontypridd to draw level with Cardiff with 22 points at the top of the first division. Cardiff remain in the lead only by virtue of having scored nine more tries. But Pontypridd have a game in hand, while Neath, on 18 points, will stalk the leaders until the end. Thus the Welsh club season has been revitalised when it might so easily have lain moribund.

But this was pretty dour stuff, although Neath will not mind that. There was too much kicking and too much rugby of the pushing and heaving kind.

Two Neath players, however, lifted the gloom. Arwel Thomas is a slip of a boy at 19, but is already a delightful player. He has a mature head. Physically, there is not much of him, but he seems to thrive on a big occasion. Here he scored 16 points. His try resulting from an interception, showed a sharp anticipation when Cardiff were beginning to build a rare momentum.

Laity and Bennett were intending to go one way but Thomas moved between them and scored at the other end.

Richard Jones's try in the second half was a chase to the line after Thomas, going left, leaned backwards and grubber kicked with the outside of his right foot and guide the ball through the defence.

The other was the loose-head prop, John Davies. He looks ungainly but he shows firm grip in the scrum. He has learnt also how to tear the ball away from the opposition. He is to be found in the loose doing tidy things like being in the right place and passing at the right time. He is often seen, too, picking up the ball from his toes and driving. It is not easy to say this of a prop, but he draws your attention and is a joy to watch.

Cardiff had first use of the wind and kicked too much. Although they went into the lead with an Adrian Davies penalty, they were behind at the interval 10-3 after Thomas had kicked a penalty, scored his try and converted it.

As Neath had the influential breeze behind them, there was little chance Cardiff would recover. Two more penalties by Thomas and Jones's try set the seal on Cardiff, the remainder of whose season is going to be a nail-biting time.

SCORERS: Neath: Tries: Thomas, Jones. Conversion: Thomas Penalty goals: Thomas (3). Cardiff: Penalty goal: Davies.

NEATH: P Thorburn; C Higgs, L Davies, H Woodland, R Jones; A Thomas, D Llewellyn; M Morgan, B Williams, J Davies, A Kembury, Glyn Llewellyn, Gareth Llewellyn, C Scott, C Wyatt.

CARDIFF: C John; S Hill, M Hall, C Laity, N Walker; A Davies, A Booth; D Joseph, H Bevan, P Sedgemore, M Bennett, S Roy, J Wakeford, M Budd, H Stone.

Referee: P Bolland (Cardiff).

Scotland denied victory at the last



David Hands on an 18-17 triumph for Australia that maintained a proud record at schoolboy level

THE long hand of coincidence stretched from one end of 1994 to the other for Scottish rugby. Just as a penalty goal from Jonathan Callard deep in injury time robbed the seniors of victory over England in the five nations' championship last February so, on Saturday, did the last kick of the match at Murrayfield deprive the schoolboys of a famous victory over Australia.

Consider the statistics since Australia have been sending school teams here: they have played 72 games, of which just one, to England on the first tour in 1974, has been lost. There has been the odd drawn encounter, but up to this, their sixth visit, they have cut a swath through the junior game and helped to shape a senior generation that won the World Cup.

From the five previous touring sides to Britain, 38 players have gone on to win senior representative honours. Coincidentally, the sixth party has been in contact with three of their predecessors — Gary Ella helped with training back in Sydney, Mark Ella was on the flight to Britain and Tony Melrose talked to the side before the international with Ireland in Dublin, which Australia won 27-3.

For the unconsidered Scots to go down 18-17 was, therefore, a magnificent achievement and one that would give hope to their senior administrators were it not for the fact that the schools pick from so narrow a base. Merchiston Castle, George Watson's and Stewart's Melville have dominated the schools scene north of the border, but Scotland need more representatives from the state schools. Of Saturday's XV, only one, Jason White, from Cults Academy, near Aberdeen, played, though there were three more among the replacements.

Scottish officials see this as an unusually low representation but it is there — just as in Australia — where development can truly be made. Of the Australian side, only two come from outside the greater public schools system.

But several of the side will have been earmarked already by the Australian Institute of Sport, that hot-house of sporting excellence, and the whole tour party has been canvassed by the Australian Rugby Union about their career ambitions, with which the union will help if it can.

The ever-present threat is rugby league. "We have been criticised for picking boys who go to league straightaway," Bernie Carberry, the manager, said. "But the boys see what rugby touring is all about and that way we keep quite a lot." In fact, the drain has slowed since the 1990-91 tour and the significant effect of Australia's World Cup success, but it is expected to quicken again with the expansion of the Winfield Cup competition.

Nevertheless, the Australians arrived at a bitterly cold Murrayfield with an athletic side stacked at the lineout with tall timber. Never afraid to innovate, they have invited Simon Kasprowicz to lead the side in the three internationals (the tour concludes against England at Gloucester on January 25), judging that the form of Marc Stcherbina, the tour captain, is better without that responsibility. Their thrower at the lineout is Ben Hindmarsh, the tight-head prop, rather than the hooker.

The Scots played a remarkably combative game. Led by two outstanding flankers, Allan Gladstone and Nick Outlaw, they carried the game to their opponents in so positive a manner that Scotland led until midway through the second half. There may be a bright future, too, for Gordon Ross, the little stand-off half from George Heriot's School, who played with all the confidence his position requires.

The Australians fell foul of the schoolboy law differences between Britain and Australia. A tighter interpretation of playing the ball in the tackle pulled them up time and again and all too frequently they fell offside around the scrum, an area where the offside line in Australia is the centre of the scrum, not the ball. That, and an unusual number of handling errors, helped the Scots establish an 11-0 lead through Charles Keenan's early try, Ross's dropped goal from a heel against the head and a long penalty from Danny Mallinson.

Yet Australia stole a heel against the head, too, which gave Stcherbina a try on half-time, and they would have had a second through Manuel Edmonds had not they been recalled for obstruction. Not that Edmonds was to be denied since he rounded off an sustained attack to give his side a 15-14 lead, only to see Mallinson snatch it back with his second penalty in the final minute of proper time.

Had Scotland kicked the ball off the field the whistle might have gone but a wild kick gave the Australians the chance to counter, the Scots offended and up stepped Elton Flatley. The centre had already been short with three penalties from shorter distances but, from 46 metres, he held his nerve and the ball sailed over.

SCORERS: Scottish Schools: Try: Keenan Penalty goals: Mallinson (3) Dropped goal: Ross. Australian Schools: Tries: Stcherbina, Edmonds. Conversion: Flatley. Penalty goals: Flatley (2)

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS: D Mallinson (George Watson's), J Craig (St Aloysius'), A Bulloch (Hutcheson's GS), S Hannah (Merchiston Castle), C Keenan (Fettes); G Ross (George Heriot's), C Black (Merchiston Castle); P Fitzgerald (Colfar Academy), M Landale (Loretto), L Walker (Strathallan), A Gladstone (Gordonstoun), J White (Cults Academy), A Barnes (Stewart's Melville), N Outlaw (Loretto), A Dall (George Heriot's). Walker replaced by G Houyle (Stewart's Melville, 51min); M Harvey (Peebles HS) temporary replacement for Dall (17-23)

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS: M Bartholomeusz (Brisbane State HS), J Jones-Hughes (Sydney HS), E Flatley (Nudgee), M Stcherbina (Sydney HS), R Rogan (St Joseph's, NSW); M Edmonds (Erindale), D Bursill (The Scots), S Hardman (Nudgee), D Flynn (Nudgee), B Hindmarsh (The Kings), T Eaton (Marist, Pearce); T Bowman (The Scots), M Abbott (Trinity GS), S Kasprowicz (Brisbane State HS, captain), T Gilsenan (Wooloowara HS). Stcherbina replaced by B Mulheran (Marist, Ashgrove, 35). Gilsenan replaced by M Radford (St Joseph's, NSW, 45); Bursill replaced by D Cronan (Brisbane State HS, 54)

Referee: G Crothers (Ireland).

PETER KEMP


Gilsenan, the Australian Schools No 8, rises above the Scots to secure lineout possession at Murrayfield

Try-scoring glut poses vital questions on health of game

Pontypridd 54
Dunvant 3

BY JOHN HOPKINS

IN WHAT sort of shape is Welsh club rugby on the second day of the new year? Two first division league matches in Wales in eight days presented evidence as to the health of the patient.

On Christmas Eve, Llanelli crushed Abertillery and seven days later Pontypridd moved to share the lead in the first division of the league with Cardiff after demolishing Dunvant.

On the evidence of these two games, tries are being scored in unprecedented numbers in league games: ten at Llanelli, nine at Pontypridd — an average of one every 12 minutes. This suggests that the change to a more fluid playing style is working and if anyone is inclined to carp, then just think back to the time when turgid, low-scoring games were commonplace.

It is questionable, however, whether this glut of try-scoring is benefiting the national team or merely making it a more attractive game to watch and play.

Are players more accomplished and demonstrating more skills than they used to or are they merely better at reproducing one particular style of play?

Club rugby in Wales is dominated by a few clubs. Where is the national benefit if Llanelli and Pontypridd can dispose of Abertillery and Dunvant while conceding only one try between them? A scratch Pontypridd team would have been a match for Dunvant. It was 20 minutes before Dunvant spent any significant time in the Pontypridd half.

Yet one moment in this game underlined the intensity of the league among the leading clubs in the Principality. The moment did not follow one of Dale McIntosh's bullocking runs, which are accompanied by shouts of "Chiefy, Chiefy", a reference to his status in Maori culture. Nor was it when James Alvis, a sturdy prop forward, was declared the man of the match. Nor, even, was it for either of the tries scored by Neil Jenkins, a saint at Sardis Road, a man able to double or treble-park his car in the middle of the club's small car park without criticism.

What brought the biggest reaction from the crowd was the announcement that Neath were leading Cardiff 15-3. This prompted the chant of "Neath, Neath, Neath" from all around the ground. Hearing this at Sardis Road when the club from the Gnoll were not within 20 miles was like hearing Tony Blair being cheered by the Tories during Prime Minister's Question Time.

Pontypridd's last defeat in the league was by Dunvant at the start of the season. How that could have happened is indeed puzzling on the evidence of this game.

Pontypridd's forwards overwhelmed Dunvant and their threequarters were rampant, particularly in the second half when they ran in six tries in one 32-minute spell. Jenkins, as well as getting through his normal prodigious amount of defending, ran and ran with the ball. It was nearly half-time on a bitterly cold day when rain and snow threatened from low menacing clouds before he chose to kick as a means of attack.

The good news for Wales is that he survived this game without injury. To have lost him from the national team along with so many others would have been undeserved cruel luck.

What the long-term significance is from these games remains unclear. Suffice at this stage to say this: it isn't half good to watch.

Full rugby results and league tables ..... Page 26

SCORERS: Pontypridd: Tries: Manley (3), Jenkins (2), Thomas, G Jones, J Lewis, Alvis. Conversions: Jenkins (3) Penalty goal: Jenkins. Dunvant: Penalty goal: Lloyd.

PONTYPRIDD: G Jones; D Manley, S Lewis, J Lewis, C Thomas; N Jenkins, D Gibbon; N Bezani, P John, J Alvis, M Spiller. G Prosser, M Rowley, P Thomas. D McIntosh. McIntosh replaced by M Lloyd (17min); Bezani replaced by N Jones (25).

DUNVANT: D Evans; P Hopkins, M Thomas, W Lloyd, G Richards; W Booth, N Lloyd; A Piper, H Davis, K Allen, C Davies, D Nicholas, A Gregory, R Greenwood. P Morris. Allen replaced by R Furneaux (44); Morris replaced by S Mallalieu (46); Davies replaced by J Bowden (73).

Referee: C Thomas (Skewen).

Greening ripe for success

Gloucester.....35
Moseley.....6

BY BARRY TROWBRIDGE

A SPIRITED performance from Moseley in their 16-6 defeat by Northampton in the Pilkington Cup on December 17 had Alex Keay, the director of rugby at The Reddings, enthusing about the potential of his young side.

On Saturday, eight of the starting XV had changed, but the emphasis on youth was identical. Yet it was two young men in the red and white of Gloucester who caught the eye. Word is that, at Kingsholm, Phil Greening is spoken of in hushed tones. As captain of the England schools under-18 side that last season achieved the grand slam, Greening, a hooker, is accustomed to success. Three strikes against the head, a bullish display in the loose that was capped with the first try, and an urgency to reintroduce the ball to play at lineouts were only the highlights of an afternoon's work that belied his 19 years. He will go far; Gloucester's concern must be the colours he will be wearing when he arrives.

With guidance from Mike Teague in the back row, Rob Fidler, did almost as well at on the blind side. A relatively old hand at 30, Fidler tidied matters at the back of the lineout, showed handy pace and provided the link between Greening and the Gloucester backs when they sent Holford over in the corner.

Such was Gloucester's dominance, the match, played in a cold, swirling wind, did little to warm the heart. What pressure Moseley did exact came only from Matt Birch's long and accurate line kicking.

Dan Protherough, their 19-year-old hooker, will have been disappointed. His late father, Dave, the former player and administrator at Moseley who died in a car accident in October, tutored Greening in his time at Chosen Hill School.

By conceding three inches and 3½ stone, Dan Protherough was always likely to finish second best. Finding Greening on top of his efficient game did nothing to help.

SCORERS: Gloucester, Tries: Greening, Holford, T Smith, Teague, Fenley. Conversions: Osborne (2). Penalty goal: Osborne. Dropped goal: Kimber. Moseley: Penalty goals: Birch (2)

GLOUCESTER: T Smith, P Holford, C Cesive, S Morris, L Osborne, M Kimber, D Maclen; A Powles, P Greening, A Deacon, R Fidler, D Sims, R West, I Smith, M Teague. Maclen replaced by B Fenley (29min); Sims replaced by C Raymond (60).

MOSELEY: C Dosser, E Anderson, J Bonney, N Hill, R Jones, M Birch, G Becconsall, P Butler, D Protherough, N Weaber, M Proctor, G Watson, M Swyper, A Cahill, S Orrun.

Referee: G Hughes (Manchester).

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Lively Moon times return perfectly

Llanelli 18
Treorchy 7

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THE great debate over who should wear the Welsh No 9 jersey is bound to rage on this week as the selectors sit down to choose the side to launch the defence of the five nations' trophy in Paris on January 21.

For the previous three weeks Rupert Moon, the Llanelli captain and incumbent, had been kicking his heels while recovering from a broken wrist. His timely return, five days before the selectors meet, means they could be in for a lengthy discussion on the merits of Moon, Robert Jones, the man he replaced at Parc des Princes two years ago, and Paul John, of Pontypridd.

So what was it that Moon was able to show in his favour on his return? He was lively throughout, played wisely with the wind in the first half and popped up all over the place. It was never going to be easy for him playing against an opponent as stubborn as the former Welsh scrum half, Chris Bridges, but he just about won that battle.

Treorchy could not repeat their 16-0 home win over Llanelli, but they remained in contact throughout and made it a tense final quarter when Keith Orrell scored and, had they taken all their chances, it could have been a different story.

As it was, an interception try on the stroke of time from the replacement flanker, Andrew McPherson, extended the lead and allowed Moon one final chance to impress the selectors with a touchline conversion attempt into the wind. Neil Jenkins, the Wales kicker, has little to worry about.

SCORERS: Llanelli: Tries: R Evans, Lamerton, McPherson Dropped goal: Strange. Treorchy: Try: K Orrell. Conversion: A Hames.

LLANELLI: I Jones; W Proctor, N Boobyer, M Wintle, G Evans; J Strange, R Moon; R Evans, R McBryde, S John, L Williams, A Copsey, I Hembrow, P Davies. A Lamerton Lamerton replaced by A McPherson (56min)

TREORCHY: D Lloyd; J Riggs, K Orrell, C Hammons, A Harries; D St John, C Bridges; A Dibble, K Jones, M Powell, S Evans, A Gwilym, J Burnell, O Lloyd, L Jones. Dibble replaced by T Orrell (41); K Jones replaced by L Gaby (50), L Jones replaced by S Eggar (76)

Referee: H Lewis (WRU)

Pontypool miss big men

Swansea.....31
Pontypool.....10

BY PETER BILLS

THE great boilerhouse that once served Welsh heavy industry so well, the furnaces and pits of the Gwent valleys fulfilled another function. They provided a hardcore of tough players for the heart of the scrummages with which Gwent clubs like Pontypool, once British rugby's most feared, and Newport (both now threatened with relegation) made their reputation.

Such industrial bases are now largely redundant and with their decline has gone the intimidating forward power of those clubs. To see a Pontypool forward pack outshoved in the set scrums and barged aside in the lineouts must make poignant viewing for those eminent servants at Pontypool Park, Bobby Windsor, now the first-team coach, and John Perkins, the present chairman. How Pool could have done with one of those old heads to provide a rallying point on Saturday.

Pontypool have some big lads, but they lack the necessary bulk and experience to make an impression in Heineken League rugby and their tactical naivety and lack of cohesion was disturbing. So, too, was their indiscipline: frequent instances of dissent costing them the extra ten yards after the original award of penalties.

Without the physical strength to compete up front, Pontypool could do little: their back line was cruelly exposed for its lack of speed by a pacey Swansea unit.

Pontypool's morale will not have been improved by the weekend resignation of the assistant coach, Bob Dawkins, and the news that this is likely to be the last season Mark Ring plays. Without him Pontypool look rudderless.

Swansea, of course, have had their own problems since their annihilation by the South Africans. But at a bitterly cold St Helens they emphasised their attacking capacity with some sparkling moves in their victory by five tries and two penalty goals to two tries.

The penetrating power of their back row was demonstrated by Stuart Davies's pushover try from a scrum and Reynolds score through good support play. However, assessing the true merits of the Swansea back row in an international sense will not have been easy for the watching Welsh coach, Alan Davies, given the ascendancy of the home team's front five.

In the second half the danger of Swansea's broken-field running was shown as Harris (twice) and Simon Davies were released in sufficient space to round their markers for fine tries. It was entertaining stuff on the final day of the year.

Pontypool scored in the first and penultimate minutes, both from defensive lapses of concentration. But given that Swansea were considerably below strength because of injuries and a flu virus, the great potential of the home side was obvious.

Swansea clearly have the players to revive their season, principally in the cup. Just as obviously Pontypool's problems run a great deal deeper.

SCORERS: Swansea: Tries: Harris (2), Stuart Davies, Reynolds, Simon Davies. Penalty goals: A Williams (2). Pontypool: Tries: M Taylor, J Williams.

SWANSEA: A Clement; A Harris, D Weatherley, R Boobyer, Simon Davies; A Williams, C MacDonald, C Loader, G Jenkins, K Colclough, A Reynolds, M Evans, A Moore, R Appleyard, Stuart Davies. Clement replaced by S Mackenzie (71min); MacDonald replaced by Robbie Jones (78).

PONTYPOOL: P Armstrong; P Taylor, L Jones, D Lynch, B Taylor; J Williams, D De Maid; J Crandon, R Thorne, R Phillips, S Bilton, L Musk, D Evans, M Taylor, G Taylor. M Taylor replaced by L Isaac (51); Thorne replaced by G Cummins (78).

Referee: R Davies (Dunvant).

John Goodbody, in his build-up to the London Marathon in April, meets two women who fulfilled their potential

Make way for the stronger sex



Danielle Sanderson, left, and Joyce Smith find time to run despite the claims of jobs, families and social pressures

Women are the stronger sex. The only Briton to have swum the English Channel three times without stopping is female. At one stage women held the 24-hour cycling endurance record and the best performance for the Three Peaks race of Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon.

Women are also more likely than men to finish the 1995 NutraSweet London Marathon on April 2. Chris Brasher, the founder of the event, believes that women simply have greater physical and psychological reserves.

"Women can stand pain better than men. Certainly in my family, it is my wife Shirley (a former Wightman Cup tennis player), who is the strongest," he says. That is a real accolade, as anyone who has become entangled with the barbed-wire will of Brasher on a training run will testify.

Eamonn Martin, winner of the 1993 London marathon, agrees. "Women are naturally better endurance athletes. They are born for the labour of childbirth."

Two female runners, who fully exemplify this belief, are Joyce Smith, the revered first lady of British athletics, and Danielle Sanderson, the cinderella of the marathon, a jogger who became transformed into an international athlete, not by a magic wand but by natural ability and intelligent training. Both have shown how disciplined, careful exercise can allow a woman to fulfil her physical potential, despite the claims of jobs and families and social pressures.

Joyce, 57, has been a pioneer of women's long-distance running. She was born two decades too early because the long-distance races, at which she excelled, were added to the international programme only gradually. Some people, you see, used to have the quaint view that women were not tough.

She represented Britain at 800 metres against Italy in 1960, ran in the 1,500 metres when it was first included in the Olympics in 1972 and took a bronze medal in the 3,000 metres, when that event was first staged at the European championships in 1974. She rounded off her top-class career by winning the first two London marathons and competing in the 1984 Olympics at 46.

SPORT FOR ALL

She still runs, 15-20 miles a week, from her home in Watford. "It is not important to me any more. However, the longer you can keep fit, the healthier it is. And I do still have the odd race for the veterans," she says. When she competes, athletics fans are as privileged as those who watched a farewell performance of Marlene Dietrich.

From her elevated plateau of fitness, she used to work on a 13-week plan for a marathon. "For everyone attempting the event, there should be a gradual increase of mileage. You must have a plan." She thinks that people planning their first marathon should aim at time-on-the-feet rather than distance completed. This is the policy we have adopted with our schedule on this page.

During cold weather, she will wear a thermal top. When there is snow and ice on the ground, she prefers to train on grass as much as possible.

Joyce and Danielle also advocate hill-running, for its strengthening benefits. However, do not push yourself too hard if you have not tried this before and also be careful about not to jar yourself as you come down the slope.

Danielle is an example to all. She never took part in athletics until she was 26. Even the proximity of Iffley Road was not sufficiently inspiring when she was reading physics at Oxford University. However, when she began lecturing on computers for the consultancy group SEMA, she told her students that they had to set themselves goals. "I thought I should have a goal of my own. It was then that I thought of running a marathon," she says.

She knew so little about the sport that she did not even know how far it was round an athletics track. She ran her first half-marathon in plimsolls and cut-off jeans. She ran her first marathon in 3hr 7min 52sec, off 30 miles training a week, and then improved with virtually every race to become the second Briton home in the 1993 World Marathon Cup, when she did 2hr 37min 26sec.

One of her favourite sessions is a workout of a warm-up and then 2 x three miles, with a rest of two minutes between the fast runs. This, she believes, helps with improving her sustained pace. For less experienced runners, the rest should be longer.

She has also benefited from using a heart-rate monitor. A good one can cost about £100 and gives a reading on a watch-like recorder on the wrist.

Danielle's remarkably swift rise to success has been achieved while she has had a child, Joseph. She ran eight miles a day until the day she went into labour and then restarted training 11 days after giving birth.

Sometimes one wonders whether men recognise the determination of the stronger sex.

Run, sister, run

Women often do not like running alone. They prefer company. It is not only safer but it is also more congenial, especially for those who are sometimes embarrassed by exercising in public.

"It is the net-curtain problem. Some women are worried by having acres of cellulite and by the shouts of lorry drivers," says Alison Turnbull, who 11 years ago founded the Sisters Network to bring female runners together.

Running magazine, the predecessor of *Runner's World*, published an appeal expecting 70 replies. They got 800. A brilliant idea was born. "We wanted to get women, who did run, to help women, who didn't," Alison says. *Running* magazine acted like a dating agency, arranging for suitable candidates from the same locality to meet each other.

"It is a solidarity thing. It helps you to get out training if you know that someone else is waiting for you. Usually, the best 'big sisters' were the ones nearest to the beginners in ability."

Although most women started exercising because they wanted to lose weight, surveys found that this became less important as a motive after several months. What became more important were the psychological benefits: the new friends; the feeling of well-being; better sleeping patterns.

The Sisters Network grew and grew. Women's safety also began receiving more attention not because of any incidents involving female runners, but because of cases such as the highly-publicised murders of Suzy Lamplugh and Rachel Nickell.

If you have to train on your own, here are a few basic rules: wear tracksuit trousers; preferably run during daylight; tell someone at home where you are going and for how long; avoid areas where there are few people; do not make eye contact with anyone and try not to get too close to other people; if you still have a concern about the area in which you run consider carrying a personal alarm, as Danielle Sanderson does.

Best of all, join the Reebok/Runner's World Sisters Network. Write for your nearest contact to: The national co-ordinator, Rosemary Arber, 48 Clarence Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 5AU, enclosing a sae.

THIS schedule will take you through to February. Try, if possible, to have your rest day on the day before your long run and your shortest run on the day after that long run. You may not have time to train six days a week. If you are running only five days a week, drop the shortest of the runs from your schedule.

Week one: one 45-minute run; three 60-minute runs; one 50-minute fartlek, including some repetitions up hills; one 110-minute run; one rest day.

Week two: one 50-minute run; three 60-minute runs; one interval session consisting of a steady 10-minute jog, followed by 2 x 3 miles, with a five minute rest between the two hard efforts, jog for 10 minutes to warm down; one 120-minute run.

Week three: one 50-minute run; three 60-minute runs; one 50-minute fartlek, including some repetitions up hills; one 130-minute run.

Week four: one 50-minute run; two 60-minute runs; one 65-minute run; one interval session — same as week two; one 140-minute run.

Week five: one 50-minute run; two 60-minute runs; one 70-minute run; one fartlek session, including some repetitions up hills; one 150-minute run.

Andrew Longmore finds darts' family following is beside the point

Punters arrow in on sporting sideshow

The lady on the ticket desk was right. The Circus Tavern is impossible to miss. It stands alone, ostracised, plastered with fluorescent posters advertising The Searchers and Mike Reid, just before the Esso garage off the A13 in Purfleet. Spiritually rather than geographically the heart of *Essex*, the venue for the *Sunday Sport* Christmas party and the world darts championship, run by the World Darts Council and not to be confused with the traditional world championship, organised by the British Darts Organisation and held in Frimley Green this week.

The former ends today, coinciding with the early stages of the latter, but there will be precious little difference between the two. One is sponsored by cars, the other by cigarettes. Both will be played by well-fed men with moustaches and bangles against a backdrop of well-fed men with moustaches and bangles amid an atmosphere part working men's social club, part stag-night.

For the uninitiated, there are certain rules. A score of 60 or less is followed by a cry of "come on, Bob", or Bill, or Eric or whoever is throwing next, an instinctive cover-up for such an embarrassingly bad score. One hundred is regarded as OK, nothing out of the ordinary but worthy of a gentle round of applause. The decibels rise steadily from 140 to climax at the magical maximum of "180" when you are allowed to leap to your feet and punch the air. Tony Green, the originator of the proper two-octave "180", was not at the Circus, but there were plenty of imitators, none with quite the same vocal range or sense of timing.

The politics of the darts schism has largely escaped me, but I can guess it has something to do with dissatisfaction among many of the players that the mini-boom of the Eighties, when, for a heart-stopping moment, Eric and Jocky and that nice John Lowe became household names and darts threatened to follow snooker's path to television riches, has ended in tears. Someone, somewhere has ordered darts to jazz itself up.

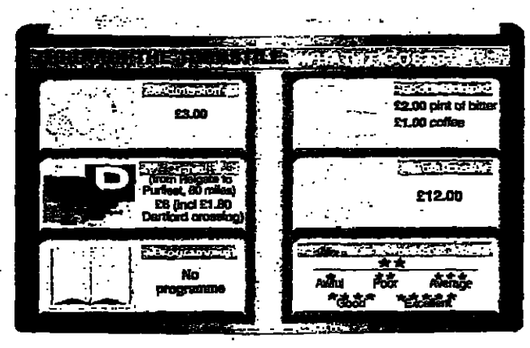
And so, at the appropriately named Circus Tavern, we had boxing-style presentations, Scottish pipers for Jocky Wilson and an Irish jig for Tom Kirby (don't ask. I didn't know and there is no programme to tell you about him), middle-of-the-road rock music for the near-50-year old, but still very nice, John Lowe, and heavy metal for the long-haired aspirant, Dennis Smith, as they process through the unmassed ranks of the spectators to the stage, preceded by pretty girls wearing very little and choreographed by the man from Sky Television in a bid to restore some identity to the sport.

In fact, the prelude was the best bit. The darts itself was so deadly it was no wonder the whole audience resorted to drink to pass the time. Only those within six feet of the oche could see what was really going on. The rest of us had to watch the television sets hanging from the ceiling, which showed a thousand slow-motion replays — there is nothing more absurd than a slowmo replay of a dart in flight, believe me — but did not tell you the score. I presume everybody kept score in their heads because the electronic scoreboard was invisible, too.

To be fair, the entrance fee of £3 gave a clue. Darts has nothing to do with sport nor even with selling pints of beer (£2) or plates of pie and chips (£2) but everything to do with the Ladbrokes office tucked discreetly into the side of the lounge bar. I should have known when the compère announced in serious tones that there had been significant money for Tom Kirby and when the menus on each table turned out to be betting odds. And there I was thinking what a friendly, cosy little world it was. All that faithful support from family and friends. Pure money talk; as fleeting as the pound in your pocket. The world darts championship is a giant betting-office. Dogs from Catford, racing from Folkestone, darts from Purfleet, flies up the wall. Roll up . . .

Of the darts itself, the less written the better. Jocky, his belly sticking out like East Anglia, should have let the piper play. He scored 21 in one turn and lost 3-0 to Lowe. "As they sing at Twickers," bellowed Sid Waddell in the commentary box. "Swing low . . ." "I'm gutted," Jocky said, forgetting that the cliché has real meaning in darts.

In between the pastiche, real skill shone like the camera lights. Phil Taylor, the pre-tournament favourite, scored nine 180s in demolishing a man called Downs who came from America and looked passably like an athlete. Jocky completed a 106 finish quicker than the cameraman's eye. "Two of the greatest sportsmen you will see anywhere in the world," the compère said of Lowe and Wilson. No trace of irony. Next week, the Circus features something called hypnotism comedy. Or maybe that was the darts.



Midlands pipped in quest for two titles

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

THE South West won the under-18 and the Midlands held on to the under-16 trophy despite having lost their last match in the youth divisional hockey tournament in Bristol on Saturday.

Midlands were hoping for a double triumph, but nothing went right for them at the older level and they failed to add to the ten points they had from the previous two days.

Their troubles began when they lost 3-2 to North East. Goals by Keith Reesby and Fraser Battye sent Midlands into a 2-0 lead, which seemed likely to be increased from a penalty stroke, but Stuart Williams was wide of the target.

North East hit back with goals by Chris Dunn and Manfreet Kochar, eventually to win the match with a late goal from a short corner by Adam Frost.

So, everything depended on the last match of the round-robin series, in which South West beat Midlands 1-0 with a goal in the dying minutes from Jeremy Sutton from a chance set up by Chris Ambridge.

The highlight of the day was the 9-0 victory for the South East under-16 team over North East, with Peter Weles of Teddington scoring four goals and Simon Gittins of Canterbury, three. However, the glory had already been stolen by Midlands, who started the day with a 4-0 victory over North East.

The final under-16 match between West and North West was abandoned at half-time because the pitch was waterlogged.

Lowe sets highest standards in title bid

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JOHN LOWE found his best form on Saturday in defeating Dennis Smith, of Swindon, 4-0 in the quarter-finals of the Proton Cars world darts championship at Purfleet.

Lowe, 50, from north Derbyshire, who before joining the breakaway World Darts Council (WDC) won the Embassy world championship three times, has not lost a set in three matches at the tournament.

He beat two other former Embassy world champions, Dennis Priestley and Jocky Wilson, in group matches, each by 3-0, and was far superior to Smith on Saturday.

Lowe, who is not included among the eight seeded players, was playing Phil Taylor in the semi-finals last night.

Taylor, who also won the world title before the WDC was formed, defeated Bob Anderson 4-1 on Saturday, taking a 3-0 lead before conceding the fourth set. However, Taylor, who scored nine 180s, quickly regained control to secure a convincing victory.

In the other semi-final, Rod Harrington, the second seed, from Chelmsford, was playing the No 3 seed, Peter Evison.

Dave Askew, 31, an England international, came back from two sets down to beat the top seed, Steve Beaton, 3-2 in the first round of the Embassy world championship at the Lakeside Country Club in Frimley Green, Surrey, yesterday.

Last year Beaton, 30, from Leamington Spa, also fell victim in the first round, to Nick Gedney, by the same score after winning the first two sets.

Autissier recalls ordeal

AS THE British yachtsman, Niah Vaughan, reached Sydney to complete the second stage of the BOC Challenge solo round-the-world race yesterday, with little more than a broken boom to show for the 7,000-mile voyage from Cape Town, the Australian Navy was airlifting Isabelle Autissier from her yacht deep in the Southern Ocean five days after she had been dismasted for the second time during the voyage (Barry Pickthall writes).

After the RAAF helicopter transferred the Frenchwoman from her stricken yacht 900 miles south of Adelaide to the frigate Darwin, which had taken four days to reach her from Perth, Autissier told race organisers what happened when her 60ft vessel was rolled over on December 28. "The wind was blowing 50 knots and I was making eight knots with all my sails down," she said.

"I was inside the boat and could hear the noise of a very big wave coming. The boat did a big roll. It went right over through 360 [degrees]. I fell on the bulkhead, then on the ceiling, then on the other bulkhead. When I opened my eyes the boat was full of water. If I had been on deck, I would have been washed away."

The roll broke the yacht's steering and mast and left the deck with a five-metre square hole in it. "Everything was wet and full of water. Lots of things disappeared in the waves. The aft compartment was full of water and I had to shut the bulkhead to keep the rest of the boat safe and floating," Autissier added.

"First of all, I tried to empty the boat. I thought I might try to go on, but the steering system was destroyed and I was tired from sailing for three weeks with a jury rig. With the state of my boat and my personal state, I knew it would not be safe to try and get to Sydney, so two hours after the rollover, I started my emergency beacons."

So ends one of the most dramatic rescues in the history of ocean racing. Autissier is expected to be airlifted to Adelaide early today and is making plans already to try to salvage her boat, *Ecureuil Poitou Charentes II*, and repair it in time to rejoin the race on the third stage round Cape Horn starting on January 29.

Poor start stirs Panthers

NOTTINGHAM Panthers start the new year sitting proudly at the top of the premier division of ice hockey and it is hard to see anyone dislodging them (Norman de Mesquita writes).

They did have something of a shock when Milton Keynes Kings scored twice in the first five minutes of their game in Nottingham, but the Panthers led 3-2 by the end of the first period, were 11-4 ahead by the end of the second, and the final score of 14-5 gave a fair indication of their overall superiority.

Randall Weber scored five of their goals and Simon Hunt, who must surely figure in Great Britain's plans for this season, scored four.

Edinburgh Racers also found themselves two goals behind in their away game with Fife Flyers. They were 4-2 down after one period, but recovered with five goals in 12 minutes and went on to win 10-8 with Tony Hand assisting on seven of the goals.

Cardiff Devils were never behind in their home game against Bracknell Bees and, when they took a 5-1 lead after only eight minutes, Lloyd Clifford, who had conceded all five goals while facing only ten shots, was replaced by Simon Burns.

It made little difference and the Devils ran out 17-5 winners; it is now two years since they were beaten in a home league match.

In the first division, Chelmsford Chieftains sprang the surprise of the weekend, beating the star-studded Blackburn Hawks 11-4. The Hawks had penalty trouble and their coach, Rocky Saganiuk, was ejected from the game during the second period.

In the light of how much money the Blackburn management has spent, it will be a great disappointment to it if the team fails to make the play-offs. If the Hawks are to achieve this, they must improve their defence quickly.

Paisley Pirates gained their nineteenth win in 20 games, but Slough Jets continue to be favourites for the league title and they won their home game against the struggling Lee Valley Lions with embarrassing ease, 14-2.

Results, page 26

Heavy ground prevents Jodami from running at Cheltenham

Large Action has stage to himself

By Julian Muscat


ED BYRNE
Master Oats clears the second last in fluent style on his way to an impressive victory in the Coral Welsh National at Newbury

WITH the ground having scuppered Jodami's appearance at Cheltenham today, Large Action, the Champion Hurdle favourite with Ladbrokes, has the stage to himself when he tackles just two opponents in the Cheveley Park Stud New Year's Day Hurdle at Windsor.

The opportunity looked too good to miss, although that did not prevent Oliver Sherwood, who trains Large Action, from walking the Berkshire course at the onset of dawn yesterday. Sherwood pronounced himself "very happy" with the state of the ground and Jamie Osborne therefore renews his association with the high-class seven-year-old.

When he has not been riding Large Action into the winner's enclosure, Osborne has kept one eye on the progress — or lack of it — of his likely opponents at Cheltenham. He dismisses Danoli's flop in Ireland last week as the labours of a sick horse. "You can't judge him on that run," the jockey said yesterday, "but a hard race on heavy ground will not have done him any good just ten weeks before the big one."

Osborne is more wary of the threat posed by Relkeel, who has yet to be extended by moderate opposition in four outings this term. "Relkeel could be anything," he said. "I would have expected Large Action to do the same if confronted by what he has faced. But while we can gauge where we are against the others, we can't with Relkeel. I'd be frightened of him for that reason."

It may not all be plain sailing aboard Large Action, a notoriously lazy horse. "You have to accept he won't give you a winning feel throughout the race," Osborne explained. "He often feels beaten at halfway but you know he'll respond. He's very similar to Berude Not To: they're both laid-back animals."

Ridden by Osborne, Berude Not To demonstrated that trait when galloping to a resounding victory in the Challow Hurdle at Newbury on Saturday. He will have one more run, at Wincanton next month, before contesting the Sun Alliance Hurdle.

Impressive though he was, the highlight of an exciting card was the victory of Master Oats in the Coral Welsh National, which was diverted from last week's abandoned Chepstow fixture. With the exception of Master Oats, no other horse burdened with more than 11 stone remotely threatened to land one of the four handicaps run on testing ground. Yet Kim Bailey's chaser made light of 11st 6lb in cruising home by 20 lengths from Earth Summit.

Lord Relic, who started 5-2 joint-favourite with Master Oats, fractured a pastern and yesterday underwent a three-hour operation to insert three screws in an effort to save his career. Lord Relic was progressing into a stayer of merit and his injury is a cruel blow.

Though proven in the mud, Master Oats must enter the Gold Cup equation on ground anything more yielding than good-to-firm. He is 10-1 favourite for the Grand National, his principal target, but a Gold Cup quote of 16-1 looks generous within the confines of a season littered with big-race upsets. The nine-year-old can be assessed again in the Greenalls Gold Cup at Haydock on February 25.

Jodami also heads to Haydock, in his case for the Peter Marsh Chase two weeks on Saturday. "We plan to school him on a racecourse before then," said his trainer, Peter Beaumont.

Saturday's results, page 26

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Northern Saddler
(3.40 Exeter)

Nb: Medinas Swan Song
(1.20 Windsor)

Welcoming in the new year with a classic swing

JULIAN MUSCAT



Racing commentary

Farewell, then, to the old year, which was kind to the Turf. Yet from out of the mists comes a welcome illusion: the new year will be kinder still. Political debate rages. Progress abounds. But above all, a horse of untold promise, and with a GB suffix, descends from the heavens. He stirs the blood; he warms the soul; he wards off the invaders from Dubai. His name is Celtic Swing...

JANUARY: Lanfranco Dettori, who resumes at Southwell today, partners all six winners and announces his immediate target: to ride more all-weather winners than there are races. A puzzled William Hill representative says: "We don't think it's possible but you never know with Frankie. He must be tremendous value at 5-4."

FEBRUARY: Jumps racing is abandoned as the weather bites. Mindful of lost betting opportunities, all 52 fixtures are re-scheduled to a Scandinavian venue on August 23, when the extra daylight hours should allow their completion in one stint. News filters through that Lady Herries, who trains Celtic Swing, has bought a Newmarket cast-off which routs his stable companion on the gallops. Named Celtic Nemesis, he is the new favourite for the 2,000 Guineas.

MARCH: Large Action wins the Champion Hurdle but the Gold Cup attracts only three entries and is re-opened at the five-day stage. Red Rum, now 30 years old, is brought out of retirement but narrowly fails to beat a three-year-old trained by François Doumen making its British debut.

APRIL: George Foreman, hired to bring order to the start of the Grand National, is left prostrate by an irate trainer whose identity remains a mystery. David Nicholson stuns the racing community by signing $30 million world championship contract to fight Mike Tyson.

MAY: In a photo, Celtic Swing lands the 2,000 Guineas from SonofNashwanandAlBahathri, the latter having raced exclusively in Dubai. The conspicuous absence of Celtic Nemesis is explained by Lady Herries. "I heard the rumours but no such horse ever existed." Bookmakers refuse to refund all bets.

JUNE: Celtic Swing wins the Derby but Elizabeth Hurley makes the headlines. She arrives at Royal Ascot wearing nothing underneath an outfit emblazoned with logos of Robert Sangster's Swettenham Stud. It is promptly ripped off by a bowler-hatted gateman, who ushers her into the Royal Enclosure. Sangster is furious: "I finally attract some sponsorship and they strip me bare."

JULY: The experimental summer jumps fixtures, postponed by torrential rains, are added to the card in Scandinavia next month. A BHB official beams: "There will now be 390 races, starting at two-minute intervals. We should get through them in exactly 13 hours. An excellent day's racing is in store."

AUGUST: Brian Walden, now firmly ensconsed in the Turf's hierarchy, interviews Lord Hartington about racing's finances at the York meeting. "It seemed to go well," intimated Hartington, "although I didn't get the chance to say very much."

SEPTEMBER: Determined to rout Celtic Swing's triple crown bid, the Maktoums dispatch 150 runners from Dubai for the St Leger. Peter Savill is undeterred but there is uproar when Celtic Swing is balloted out with insufficient prize-money earnings. It transpires that all maiden races in Dubai are worth £1.5 million to the winner.

OCTOBER: Lord Wyatt, of Weeford, who announces he is emigrating to Macau, insists he will continue running the Tote. "I believe there are these things called telephones by which I can keep in touch," he says to hoots of derision. "I don't know what all the fuss is about".

NOVEMBER: Declan Murphy wins the Mackeson aboard Bradbury Star and announces his retirement. He is immediately enrolled to chair the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee and fires all racecourse stewards save for those at Warwick. "I like their attitude to the use of the whip," Murphy explains.

DECEMBER: The National Lottery, coupled with the introduction of one-armed bandits into betting shops, has hit racing hard. Last year's levy yield of £52 million has shrunk to a projected £2.5 million in 1995. "We are delighted the racing industry approaches Christmas in such robust health," proclaim the bookmakers.

WINDSOR

THUNDERER

12.50 Bo Knows Best
1.20 Medinas Swan Song
1.55 Auburn Castle
2.30 Avonburn
3.05 Large Action
3.40 Senor El Betrutti

GOING: SOFT (7.30AM PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION) SIS

12.50 THOMPSON INVESTMENTS NOVICES CHASE
(£3,989: 2m 5f) (11 runners)

1	2P0-132	CARLINGFORD LAKES 21 (CD,BF,S) T Thomson Jones 7-11-2	M A Fitzgerald	84
2	14/05P3	ALLO GEORGE 31 (G) (Lavis Medical Systems) A Newcombe 9-11-0	B Clifford	60
3	6100-1S	BO KNOWS BEST 32F (F,S) (D Humphreys) G L Moore 6-11-0	M Richards	—
4	3F0U0-0	BUCKELIGHT 13 (Mrs C Astrobus) T Forster 7-11-0	R Farrant	88
5	02U0/P-3	CLEVER DICK 27 (S) (Mrs P Donkin) Mrs L Jewell 10-11-0	Mr B Pollock (7)	—
6	40PP2-P	COLONIAL OFFICE 12 (G Richards) Graham Richards 9-11-0	Mr M Rimell (7)	84
7	0/506-05	ESSDOUBLEYOU 12 (S Transport Ltd) Mrs J Pentree-Barons 7-11-0	R Greene	—
8	0/	MIGHTY MICHAEL 667 (L Fast) A Jarvis 9-11-0	P Holley	—
9	0PP-3	QUEEN'S AWARD 68 (F Rosenstiel's Widow & Son) R Champion 6-11-0	N Williamson	63
10	0/4052P-	TEXLA 384 (S) (E Lodge) A Chamberlain 10-11-0	A Tory	87
11	54P/P0P	LLANELLY 44 (Ros Racing Ltd) Graeme Roe 8-10-9	R Bellamy	—

BETTING: 6-4 Bo Knows Best, 7-2 Carlingford Lakes, 5-1 Clever Dick, 8-1 Queen's Award, Allo George, 10-1 Essdoubleyou, 12-1 others.

1994: THE GLOW 6-11-7 P Holley (4-5 fav) D Elsworth 7 ran

1.20 YOUNG RACEGOERS CLUB NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,882: 2m) (9 runners)

1	F2F5-11	MEDINAS SWAN SONG 13 (D,G,S) (C Perry) R Hodges 7-11-10	A Tory	99
2	212/4F4-	PLAYING TRUANT 412 (G) (D Moon) D Gandolfo 7-11-4	G Bradley	85
3	13P-311	PRINCESS HOTPOT 39 (D,G) (Mrs S Brasher) Miss H Knight 7-11-4	J Osborne	88
4	P/40-421	PEGMARINE 20 (D,S) (Mrs A Woodrow) Mrs A Woodrow 12-11-2	J A McCarthy	92
5	2-06523	ROSGILL 14 (F,S) (Brigadier Racing) J White 9-11-1	P McLoughlin (5)	85
6	232U4-3	HANDSOME NED 27 (G,S) (M Bridger) D Grissell 9-11-0	M A Fitzgerald	84
7	FU/U654-	ELITE LEO 324 (B Cooper) P Hobbs 10-10-6	N Williamson	82
8	P20533-	VICTORY GATE 231 (G) (Mrs P Donkin) Mrs L Jewell 10-10-5	Mr B Pollock (7)	88
9	04/PP00	CHURCH STAR 32 (Sean Taylor) J Bridger 11-10-0	D Morris	—

Long handicap: Church Star 8-7.

BETTING: 11-4 Medinas Swan Song, 7-2 Princess Hotpot, 9-2 Pegmarine, 6-1 Handsome Ned, 7-1 Rosgill, 8-1 Playing Truant, 10-1 others.

1994: ILEWIN 7-10-5 M Ahern (10-1) M Muggeridge 10 ran

1.55 TOTE CREDIT HANDICAP HURDLE — C4
(£5,795: 2m 6f 110yd) (16 runners)

1	0/1P-313	AUBURN CASTLE 24 (BF,F,S) (Rashleigh Arms) O Sherwood 6-11-10	J Osborne	87
2	413-315	GOOGLY 24 (B,S) (Ms M Horan) J White 6-11-8	P McLoughlin (5)	90
3	031F-83	EARLY MAN 23 (D,F,S) (Mrs J Gnst) D Grissell 8-11-5	M Richards	84
4	0-UPP00	BRINDLEY HOUSE 45 (S) (S Glazer) R Curtis 8-11-4	D Morris	—
5	02/3041	GROUSEMAN 19 (B,G,S) (Aquarius) Miss H Knight 9-11-1	M A Fitzgerald	89
6	1230/	SINGING FOREVER 1360 (E) (C Bibby) B Meehan 8-10-11	P Holley	—
7	1S4-0	FOOLS ERRAND 32 (S) (Mrs D Russell) R Hannon 5-10-10	G McCourt	88
8	2/UP-654	LANDED GENTRY 26 (S) (K Bell & Son Ltd) C Broad 6-10-8	I Lawrence	99
9	432-352	JADIDH 14 (D,F,G,S) (O Hazzard) C Wildman 7-10-8	F Leahy (5)	92
10	635-001	BADRAKHANI 14 (C,G,S) (P Slade) C Nash 9-10-7	J R Kavanagh	93
11	125243	RUNAWAY PETE 17 (F,G) (Parran Associates) A Barrow 5-10-6	2nd pref	91
12	1234-16	RAMALLAH 44 (BF,G,S) (Maidens Green Acres) J White 6-10-4	B Clifford	90
13	10/8-25F	MASTER REACH 20 (F) (H Ormesher) B Meehan 6-10-3	M Hourigan	—
14	356-034	FOX CHAPEL 49 (BF,G,S) (B Hine) R Juckes 8-10-2	N Juckes (7)	94
15	6050-06	SYLVIA BEACH 16 (F,S) (G Greenwood) P Murphy 9-10-2	E Murphy	90
16	3/1-2	SHARP PERFORMER 30 (BF,G) (Mrs S Ellen) K Bailey 6-10-0	N Williamson	87

Long handicap: Sharp Performer 9-13

BETTING: 5-1 Badrakhani, 6-1 Auburn Castle, 7-1 Sharp Performer, 8-1 Grouseman, Googly, 10-1 Jadidh, Landed Gentry, 12-1 Ramallah, 14-1 Fox Chapel, Master Reach, 16-1 others.

1994: BRIGHTLING BOY 9-10-1 D Gallagher (12-1) D Grissell 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

AUBURN CASTLE beat Poors Wood neck in 11-runner Newbury handicap hurdle (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. GOOGLY beat Zealous Kitten 4l in 7-runner Haydock handicap hurdle (2m 4l, good to soft) penultimate start. EARLY MAN 9l 3rd of 4 to Hawaiian Youth in Lingfield handicap hurdle (2m 3l 110yd, heavy).
GROUSEMAN beat Just Rosie 6l in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Devon (2m 2l, soft). FOOLS ERRAND 15l 7th of 11 to Southampton in handicap hurdle here (2m, good) with SYLVIA BEACH (2lb better off) 9l 8th. BADRAKHANI beat JADIDH (3lb better off) 4l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). RAMALLAH beat The Whip 1l in 14-runner Plumpton handicap hurdle (2m 4l, heavy).
FOX CHAPEL 19l 4th to Island Jewel in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4l 110yd, soft with heavy patches). SHARP PERFORMER 13l 2nd to Nordansk in 12-runner handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft).
Selection: AUBURN CASTLE (nap)

2.30 PARTY POLITICS HANDICAP CHASE — C4
(£3,625: 3m) (9 runners)

1	102-12P	KALANSKI 7 (G,S) (I Kerman) C Egerton 9-12-0	J Osborne	97
2	2630-34	AVONBURN 16 (CD,F,G,S) (H Spooner) P Hedger 11-11-11	M Richards	93
3	1104-52	MENEBUCK 60 (F,G,S) (Lady Sarah Clutton) Lady Herries 9-11-11	E Murphy	91
4	1332/1P-	OK CORRAL 511 (B,D,F,G,S) (The Tolly Partnership) C Mann 8-11-3	M A Fitzgerald	85
5	2241SP-	LUCKY LANE 289 (B,D,F,G,S) (R Hamilton) P Hobbs 11-10-13	N Williamson	84
6	30/11-F	IMPERIAL BRUSH 30 (F,G,S) (D Bauer) J White 11-10-13	P McLoughlin (5)	86
7	1F3U-32	MR FLANAGAN 34 (D,G) (Mrs R Stanley) C Brooks 9-10-6	G Bradley	97
8	12P-541	ROSITARY 3 (B,F,S) (P Wickworth) P Wickworth 12-10-5 (6ex)	J R Kavanagh	99
9	041P-4F	THE PORTSOY LOON 16 (D,S) (Mrs E Crossman) G Thorner 8-10-0	J A McCarthy	80

BETTING: 3-1 Avonburn, 4-1 Menebuck, 9-2 Mr Flanagan, 6-1 Imperial Brush, 8-1 Rositary, Kalanski, 10-1 The Portsoy Loon, 12-1 OK Corral, 14-1 others.

1994: AVONBURN 10-11-10 M Richards (2-1 fav) P Hedger 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

KALANSKI best effort beat Sunbeam Talbot 2½l in 6-runner handicap chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, soft) with ROSITARY (1lb better off) 24l 4th. AVONBURN 8½l 3rd of 11 to Over The Stream in handicap chase over course and distance (good) penultimate start.
MENEBUCK 15l 2nd of 5 to Raba Riba in handicap chase here (2m 5f, good). OK CORRAL beat Emrys 6l in a 7-runner handicap chase at Bangor (3m 110yd, good to firm) penultimate start. IMPERIAL BRUSH beat Gallant Effort ½l in a 5-runner novice chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start.
MR FLANAGAN 2½l 2nd of 13 to Meleagris in a handicap chase at Leicester (3m, good). ROSITARY beat Windy Ways 30l in a 3-runner handicap chase at Folkestone (3m 2f, soft).
Selection: KALANSKI

3.05 CHEVELEY PARK STUD NEW YEAR'S DAY HURDLE — C4
(Grade II: £9,947: 2m 4f) (3 runners)

1	133-211	LARGE ACTION 23 (G,S) (B Stewart-Brown) O Sherwood 7-11-13	J Osborne	99
2	20SP-06	KILCASH 7 (B,G,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger 7-11-6	N Williamson	90
3	F-33P41	RODEO STAR 24 (F,G,S) (J Bradbury) N Tinkler 9-11-6	G McCourt	—

BETTING: 1-6 Large Action, 9-1 Rodeo Star, 10-1 Kilcash.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

LARGE ACTION, completed double, beat Flakey Dove 2½l in 6-runner grade II Boxxsphoto Bula Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1l, good to soft) with KILCASH (3lb better off) 58½l 8th. Previously beat Jazilah 1l in 4-runner grade II Gerry Feilden Hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good to soft). KILCASH 47l 6th of 8 to Trying Again in Kempton handicap hurdle (2m, soft). RODEO STAR beat Sutton Lane 2½l in 6-runner handicap chase at Doncaster (3m 3f 110yd, good). Previously 8l 4th to Kidadrol in conditions hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to soft).
Selection: LARGE ACTION

3.40 ROYAL WINDSOR NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,583: 2m) (14 runners)

1	131-31	CHERYL'S LAD 25 (F,S) (Mrs E Baines) N Henderson 5-11-12	M A Fitzgerald	92
2	0-613	SENOR EL BETRUTTI 31 (CD,S) (G Nock) C Brooks 6-11-12	G Bradley	99
3	0F	ANDALUSIAN 23 (A Coogan) A Coogan 8-11-5	J McLaughlin	—
4		CLOCK WATCHERS (W Shaw) J Bridger 7-11-5	D O'Sullivan	—
5		FILS DE CRESSON (J Adam) A Turnell 5-11-5	S McNeill	—
6	00-P	MR DRUMMOND 88 (L Fust) A Jarvis 6-11-5	P Holley	—
7		ROYAL MEMORY (P Evans) C Weedon 5-11-5	M Richards	—
8	35	TENNESSEE KING 25 (D Armitage) A Foster 5-11-5	N Williamson	92
9	P12-F23	THE WHIP 42 (G) (Mrs R Howell) D Grissell 6-11-5	E Murphy	94
10		WHISPERING COURT (Court Jesters Partnership 2) A Turnell 5-11-5	J Osborne	—
11	6/5	CLERIHUE 31 (Col R J Martin) P Hobbs 6-11-0	G McCourt	—
12	00-4	DEPTFORD BELLE 78 (Heart Of The South Racing) R Curtis 5-11-0	D Morris	—
13	60/	LUDOVICIANA 620 (G Paul) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-0	A Tory	—
14	0-0	WINDSOR FOX 33 (C Tilly) R Rowe 5-11-0	T Grantham	—

BETTING: 6-4 Cheryl's Lad, 5-2 Senor El Betrutti, 7-1 The Whip, 8-1 Whispering Court, 10-1 Fils De Cresson, 12-1 Tennessee King, Clerihue, 14-1 others.

1994: MISTER NOVA 5-11-5 M A Fitzgerald (11-8 fav) N Henderson 14 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
C Brooks	3	9	33.3	M Hourigan	3	8	37.5
Miss H Knight	8	37	21.6	G McCourt	7	35	20.0
N Henderson	8	38	21.1	N Williamson	10	56	17.9
P Hobbs	8	40	20.0	J Osborne	10	61	16.4
K Bailey	8	43	18.6	G Bradley	3	19	15.8
D Grissell	4	22	18.2	M A Fitzgerald	4	29	13.8

CHELTENHAM

THUNDERER

1.00 Cache Fleur
1.35 Nirvana Prince
2.10 Montebel
2.45 Mr Boston
3.20 Cab On Target
3.55 Major Summit

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
3.20 CAB ON TARGET.

GOING: SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES (8AM PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION) SIS

1.00 CHELTENHAM SPONSORSHIP CLUB HANDICAP CHASE
(£6,905: 2m 5f) (6 runners)

101	F151-16	KATABATIC 23 (C,F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 12-11-10	S McNeill	96
102	242-331	GENERAL PERSHING 7 (D,F,G,S) (J Porter) G Richards 9-10-7 (5ex)	A Dobbin	98
103	4-F4PF2	SOUTHOLT 23 (F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-10-2	P Verling	99
104	2122/65	BEECH ROAD 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Mr & Mrs T Geake) G Balding 13-10-0	A Maguire	93
105	111000	TIPPING TIM 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 10-10-0	D Bridgwater	92
106	4/3122U	CACHE FLEUR 7 (BF,F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 5-10-0	R Dunwoody	85

Long handicap: Beech Road 9-11, Tipping Tim 9-11, Cache Fleur 9-5

BETTING: 2-1 General Pershing, 3-1 Katabatic, Southolt, 6-1 Tipping Tim, Beech Road, 12-1 Cache Fleur

1994: SOUTHERN MINSTREL 11-10-6 A Maguire (9-4) P Cheesbrough 4 ran

1.35 CHANNEL FOUR RACING HANDICAP HURDLE — C4
(£5,082: 2m 5f 110yd) (11 runners)

201	1R33-53	CRYSTAL BEAR 37 (F,S) (Lady Knutsford) T Forster 10-11-10	J Railton	94
202	320-FFU	RIVA 30 (F,S) (A Hassan) Mrs J Pentree-Barons 8-11-10	P Niven	92
203	111-210	FUZZY LOGIC 24 (CD,G,S) (Cheltenham Ltd) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-4	D Bridgwater	93
204	2321P-1	DO BE HAVE 7 (G) (D Walker) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-13 (5ex)	W Marston	98
205	121-343	NIRVANA PRINCE 30 (D,F,S) (O Pardman) B Preece 6-10-12	T Wall	96
206	4000-54	ACROW LINE 30 (S) (R Williams) D Burchell 10-10-3	D J Burchell	94
207	4102-02	MARROS MILL 23 (S) (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 5-10-7	A Maguire	88
208	056241	EVANGELICA 30 (S) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 5-10-5	R Dunwoody	93
209	313413	WINGS OF FREEDOM 40 (V,CD,F,G) J Jenkins 7-10-0	E Husband (5)	96
210	33-1211	STAR MOVER 7 (D,G,S) (Julian Groves Ltd) C Smith 6-10-0 (6ex)	Mr R Johnson (7)	99
211	356-034	FOX CHAPEL 49 (BF,G,S) (B Hine) R Juckes 8-10-0	2nd pref	87

Long handicap: Wings Of Freedom 9-9, Star Mover 9-9, Fox Chapel 9-13

BETTING: 7-4 Do Be Have, 7-1 Fuzzy Logic, 8-1 Wings Of Freedom, Star Mover, 10-1 Crystal Bear, Evangelica, Marros Mill, Riva, 12-1 Nirvana Prince, 16-1 Acrow Line

1994: TOOGOOD TO BE TRUE 6-10-5 L Wyer (7-1) M H Easterby 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CRYSTAL BEAR 2½l 3rd of 7 to Master Boston in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). FUZZY LOGIC beat Loch Scavaig 3½l in 3-runner handicap hurdle here (3m 2l, soft) on penultimate start.
DO BE HAVE beat Allegation 7l in 12-runner handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6l, good). NIRVANA PRINCE 7l 3rd of 10 to Second Call in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (3m 4l 110yd, soft), with ACROW LINE (1lb better off) 15l 4th. MARROS MILL 20l 2nd of 5 to Kingsfold Pet in handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy). EVANGELICA beat Rowlandsons Gold 3l in 12-runner selling hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4l 110yd, soft). WINGS OF FREEDOM beat Landsdowne neck in 11-runner conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle here (2m 5l, good) on penultimate start. STAR MOVER beat Rocky Bay 20l in 9-runner selling handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 3l 110yd, soft).
Selection: CRYSTAL BEAR

2.10 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS QUALIFIER (Novices: £4,743: 2m 5f) (8 runners) — C4

301	246331	NEWTON POINT 31 (F,G,S) (PPS Racing Partnership) T George 6-11-12	A Maguire	73
302	341-11	SUNY BAY 30 (S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 5-11-12	D Gallagher	79
303	23-1421	UNGUIDED MISSILE 7 (G) (D Harrison) G Richards 7-11-12	A Dobbin	94
304	11/6/1F	MONTEBEL 40 (F,G,S) (M Arnold) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-8	D Bridgwater	99
305	F024/31	YEOMAN WARRIOR 20 (D,S) (Mrs H Steele) R Rowe 8-11-8	R Dunwoody	96
306	13-4322	BRAVE HIGHLANDER 18 (S) (S Embiricos) J Gifford 7-11-4	P Hide	94
307	1-4F	CHARMER'S WELL 53 (S) (M Kerr-Dineen & M Gelman) G Balding 7-11-4	J Railton	—
308	11-U3	LEWESDON HILL 21 (G,S) (T Frost) P Nicholls 8-11-4	C Maude	68

BETTING: 9-4 Montebel, 3-1 Unguided Missile, 9-2 Yeoman Warrior, 5-1 Suny Bay, 7-1 Newton Point, Brave Highlander, 16-1 others

1994: EARTH SUMMIT 6-11-12 C Llewellyn (9-4) N Twiston-Davies 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

NEWTON POINT beat Wholestone 6l in 3-runner novice chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good). SUNY BAY beat Sleepie Jack 5l in 13-runner novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, soft) with LEWESDON HILL (4lb better off) unseated at 15th. UNGUIDED MISSILE beat Sparrow Hall 13l in 5-runner novice chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good).
MONTEBEL beat The Frog Prince 1¾l in 8-runner novice chase at Newbury (2m 4f, heavy) on penultimate start. YEOMAN WARRIOR beat Denver Bay 1l in 9-runner novice chase at Folkestone (2m 5f, good to soft).
BRAVE HIGHLANDER 10l 3rd of 10 to Sweet Duke in novice chase at Towcester (3m 6f, soft). LEWESDON HILL 30l and neck 3rd of 6 to Greenhill Tare Away in novice chase at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 110yd, heavy).
Selection: UNGUIDED MISSILE

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101	113143	GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) E Hall 12-0	B West (7)	88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.45 A S W HANDICAP CHASE (£7,165: 4m 1f) (9 runners) — C4

401	23P-101-	MINNEHOMA 268 (C,F,G,S) (F Starr) M Pipe 12-11-10	R Dunwoody	95
402	120P-50	DEEP BRAMBLE 37 (G,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 8-10-12	C Maude	99
403	PU0U0-2	TOPSHAM BAY 65 (C,F,G,S) (Sir Eric Parker) J S Ford 12-10-11	P Hide	94
404	PPR4-26	RIVERSIDE BOY 30 (BF,G,S) (Eugene Fantastic) M Pipe 12-10-7	W Marston	94
405	262/P5-5	BELMOUNT CAPTAIN 24 (C,G,S) (R Lavelle) G Balding 10-10-2	A Maguire	—
406	03F-223	MR BOSTON 20 (BF,F,G,S) (M Clorani) Mrs M Reveley 10-10-0	L Wyer	95
407	111P-1U	TARTAN TYRANT 25 (BF,G,S) (Marlborough Mills) G Richards 9-10-0	A Dobbin	96
408	424513	JUDGES FANCY 19 (G,S) (Mrs S Scott) N Twiston-Davies 11-10-0	D Bridgwater	85
409	2P-P23P	DIAMOND FORT 7 (B,C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Smoot) J McConnochie 10-10-0	DOUBTFUL	—

Long handicap: Mr Boston 9-12, Tartan Tyrant 9-10, Judges Fancy 5-6, Diamond Fort 7-12

BETTING: 7-4 Tartan Tyrant, 9-2 Mr Boston, 5-1 Deep Bramble, Minnehoma, 5-1 Riverside Boy, 10-1 others

1994: MOORCROFT BOY 9-10-0 A Maguire (7-2) D Nicholson 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

MINNEHOMA beat Just So 1½l in Martell Grand National at Aintree (4m 4f, heavy) with TOPSHAM BAY (10lb better off) unseated 13th, RIVERSIDE BOY (5lb worse off) refused 16th and MR BOSTON (18lb better off) fell 13th. DEEP BRAMBLE 29l 8th to One Man in Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury (3m 2l 110yd, good to soft). TOPSHAM BAY 5l 2nd to Docklands Express in handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good to firm). RIVERSIDE BOY 5l 2nd to Warner For Winners in [illegible] chase at here (3m 1l, good to soft) on penultimate start. MR BOSTON 7l and neck 3rd to [illegible] Ranger in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good). TARTAN TYRANT beat Diamond Fort 3l in handicap chase at Haydock (3m 4l 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. JUDGES FANCY beat Warner For Winners 1½l in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 2f 110yd, soft), with RIVERSIDE BOY (21lb better off) 68l 5th.
Selection: MINNEHOMA

3.20 UNICOIN HOMES SPA HURDLE — C4
(£5,378: 3m 110yd) (6 runners)

501	2-4321F	CAB ON TARGET 16 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Mercer) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-0	P Niven	99
502	01-3453	MEDITATOR 6 (C,D,G,S) (Mrs J Dyer) Miss J Doyle 11-11-0	S Curran	88
503	3002-34	OLYMPIAN 20 (B,C,F,G) [illegible] 8-11-0	D Gallagher	84
504	1224 P0-	PRAGADA 278 (B,C,D,G,S) [illegible] M Pipe 12-11-0	A Maguire	—
505	0000-P2	CAPPUCCINO GIRL 20 (G) [illegible]	M Crosse	50
506	55-1034	HER HONOUR 7 (C,BF,F,G,S) [illegible] M Pipe 5-10-9	R Dunwoody	88

BETTING: 5-4 Cab On Target, 3-1 Olympian, 7-2 Her Honour, 8-1 Meditator, 20-1 Pragada, 20-1 Cappuccino Girl

1994: SWEET DUKE 7-11-12 C Llewellyn (5-4 fav) N Twiston-Davies 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAB ON TARGET beat Your Well 4l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Sandown (3m 6f, good to soft) on penultimate start, with MEDITATOR (12lb worse off) 24l 4th. MEDITATOR 15l 2nd of 2 to Nice The Beat in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 3f, soft). OLYMPIAN head and 6l 3rd of 13 to [illegible] in hurdle at Warwick (3m, good to soft) on penultimate start. PRAGADA 45l 7th of 12 to Sweet Glow in grade II hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). HER HONOUR 35½l 4th of 5 to Island Jewel in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft).
Selection: CAB ON TARGET

3.55 NORTHLEACH NOVICES HURDLE (£4,059: 2m 1f) (12 runners)

601	1	MAJOR SUMMIT 47 (G) (A Wallis) J Gifford 6-11-9	P Hide	99
602	32-22	ABSOLUTELY AVERAGE 23 (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 5-11-5	D Gallagher	91
603	305-C3	BUCKHOUSE BOY 38 [illegible] N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5	C Maude	79
604	00-00	HIGH MOOD 24 [illegible] 5-11-5	J Railton	—
605	56-3	JIBBER THE KIBBER 79 (BF) [illegible] Mrs J Pitman 6-11-5	W Marston	84
606		MAJBOOR (AFC) 1825 [illegible] 6-11-5	M Bosley	—
607	F	ONEEDOKEE 24 (M Gates) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5	D Bridgwater	—
608	1003-	RED PARADE 259 (S) [illegible] Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-11-5	R Greene	—
609	5-	SAVUTI 291 (Mrs D Tapper) [illegible] 6-11-5	P Niven	—
610	2	WORLD EXPRESS 25 (Wrens Garner Ltd) B Millman 5-11-5	D Salter (5)	88
611	11213	KHATIR 24 (B,C,F,D,G) [illegible] M Pipe 4-11-1	R Dunwoody	95
612	04312	PLUNDER BAY 25 (BF,S) (Mrs S Piper) D Nicholson 4-10-11	A Maguire	91

BETTING: 7-4 Major Summit, 5-1 Khatir, 7-1 World Express, 8-1 Oneedokee, Plunder Bay, 10-1 others

1994: ARFER MOLE 6-11-5 T Grantham (5-1) J Old 14 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Nicholson	31	133	23.3	R Dunwoody	29	150	21.1
N Twiston-Davies	22	153	14.4	D Gallagher	6	50	15.3
J Gifford	16	92	17.4	A Maguire	23	158	14.6
M Pipe	27	200	13.5	P Hide	4	33	12.1
G Balding	12	94	12.8	P Niven	4	38	10.5
C Brooks	3	27	11.1	Only qualifiers			

Unguided Missile to strike target



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

CHELTENHAM
C4

1.35: Prior to hacking up in a Chepstow seller last month, **Evangelica** had finished a good fourth behind Chief's Song in a decent race here. Although Martin Pipe's French import may have been flattered by that run, the third-placed Isaiah won a handicap at Warwick on Thursday, which gives the form a solid look. Nirvana Prince ran well last time but the stable is out of form and Do Be Have, a good winner on his reappearance a week ago, is the main danger.

2.10: **Unguided Missile** looked above average when winning at Wetherby on Boxing Day and is improving fast. A good weight carrier who goes well on heavy ground, the Gordon Richards-trained chaser will take all the beating. Montebel would have sound prospects if returning to the form which saw him win at Newbury on his seasonal debut but he fell at the first fence here in November and has not raced since. Suny Bay, twice a winner at Towcester, is the chief threat.

2.45: With Paul Nicholls's string back to form, **Deep Bramble** looks to have a good chance. Eighth in last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup and runner-up behind Jodami in the Irish Hennessy, he ran creditably behind One Man at Newbury on ground too fast for him. Today's conditions will be perfect for the classy eight-year-old. Mr Boston is well handicapped but would prefer better ground, which leaves Tartan Tyrant, a progressive and mud-loving stayer, as the danger.

3.20: Provided his confidence has not been dented by a fall at Ascot last time, **Cab On Target** must go close. Mary Reveley's runner was second with every chance when tumbling at the second last. The eventual runner-up, Dorans Pride, beat Danoli last week. Olympian and the inconsistent Her Honour may find this trip too far.

WINDSOR
C4

1.55: Kim Bailey's lightly-raced Sharp Performer should appreciate today's longer trip and is sure to improve for his debut at Towcester. Auburn Castle takes a drop in class but is not proven over this distance, while the front-running Grouseman may find it hard to dominate here. In a tricky race, **Landed Gentry** could go well at decent odds. He may have failed to stay three miles at Haydock last time, having earlier run very well behind Tindari over today's trip.

2.30: **Mr Flanagan** has not run since splitting Meleagris and Mweenish (winner since) at Leicester in November. The form is nothing special but neither is this race, in which few can be fancied. Charlie Brooks's chaser runs off the same handicap rating and should go close. Kalanski has the form to win but Charlie Egerton's string remains out of sorts. Avonburn is a Windsor specialist and could be a decent price.

3.05: **Large Action** should dispose of his two rivals with minimum fuss. See above.

Richard Evans

JUMP LEADERS

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
R Dunwoody	103	67	57	4	-35.78
A Maguire	87	65	51	8	-58.47
N Williamson	64	57	41	2	+27.38
J Osborne	56	34	34	1	-50.24
P Niven	55	35	28	2	-17.29
D Bridgwater	44	29	31	23	+29.94
A Dobbin	42	26	26	1	-46.97
M Dwyer	41	47	25	3	-11.57

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
M Pipe	65	43	28	1	-19.45
Mrs M Reveley	60	36	23	6	+17.37
D Nicholson	56	33	23	5	+41.54
P Hobbs	53	42	27	1	-9.25
K Bailey	41	37	16	1	+60.98
N Twiston-Davies	40	42	34	3	-34.09
J White	35	30	25	2	-41.21
G Richards	28	18	16	5	-1.53

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LEICESTER	107	207	307
CATTERICK	108	208	308

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*Except Saturday

John Woodcock looks back 40 years to when another university batsman came good

Crawley's innings recalls memories of Cowdrey

Watching John Crawley during his splendid innings here yesterday was to be taken back 40 years to within all but a single day. On December 31, 1954, it was Colin Cowdrey who came in, also on the first day of the third Test match, with England in dire straits.

The two situations were extraordinarily similar, like *the backgrounds* of our musketeers. Cowdrey was 22, an Oxford Blue playing in his third Test match and the possessor of a rare talent. Crawley is 23, a Cambridge Blue playing in his fourth Test match and an English batsman of exceptional promise.

When Cowdrey walked in at Melbourne England were 21 for two, with Bill Edrich and Peter May already out (Hutton and Compton were very soon to follow them). Lindwall and Miller in full cry *and the ball* moving about in the air and off the pitch. Cowdrey scored 102 out of England's total of 191. Of his 22 Test hundreds it was the first and arguably the best. I saw 21 of them and cannot remember him ever hitting the ball with more abandon. He had yet to *discover quite* what a difficult game it can be.

Cowdrey's selection for that tour, as an undergraduate who had played 87 championship innings for Kent without making a century, raised a few eyebrows. It even prompted Hutton, the captain, to ask for, and be given an extra batsman (Vic Wilson, his fellow York*shireman) in the* touring party. In choosing Cowdrey, the selectors (H. S. Altham (chairman), G. O. Allen, L. E. G. Ames, C. H. Palmer, R. W. V. Robins and N. W. D. Yardley, with the captain in attendance) had gone for youth and for class. They knew class when they *saw it*; Colin's temperament they took on trust.

When Crawley came in yesterday England were 20 for three with Gooch, Hick and Thorpe already out. McDermott in full cry and the ball swinging all over the place *on a hot* and *humid* morning. McDermott may not be as good as Miller and Lindwall — to my mind, he never will be so long as he bowls in a watch — but yesterday he was horribly testing.

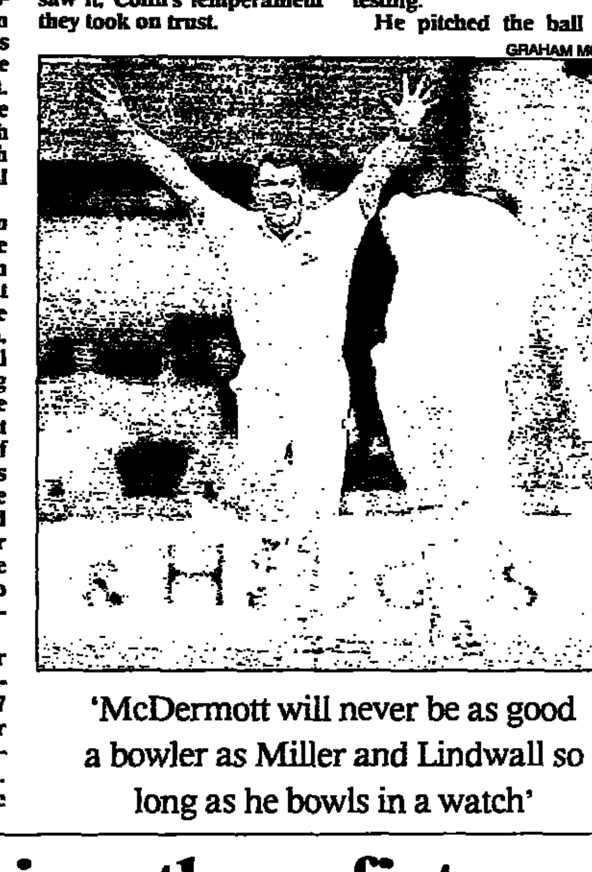
He pitched the ball well up, had good control and bowled at a fine pace. At Melbourne, Miller's figures when he came off *for the first* time were 9-8-5-3. He had been, Cowdrey always says, *in high spirits* as well, chatting and laughing with all and sundry, Cowdrey included. McDermott's figures in his first spell were 9-3-13-2. He was at the top of his form.

I shall not burden Crawley by comparing him any more closely with Cowdrey other *than to say that he*, as well, looks nice and placid and has plenty of patience. He has a simple method, and yesterday he played straighter than he is said to have been doing of late, not *with the freedom* of Cowdrey's early years but with much the same aplomb. He can consider himself fortunate not to have played in Brisbane and Melbourne and been caught up in the disasters there against Warne.

To be honest, Warne looked *really quite ordinary* yesterday — or as ordinary as he ever does. But that need not take away from the partnership between Atherton and Crawley, a superb effort deserving of the very highest praise.

Cowdrey's innings brought a four-word cable *from Sir Pelham Warner*. "Cowdrey, Melbourne, Magnificent. Warner", it read. Regularly after that, George Duckworth, baggageman, counsellor and sage, would say to Cowdrey, in Churchillian tones, "Magnifishent". How Atherton would benefit from having Duckworth with him now, rather than an unwary chairman of selectors.

Cowdrey's innings led to a *remarkable victory. Having* lost the first Test at Brisbane England won the next three and the Ashes with them. But Hutton was a lot more blessed in his attack than poor Atherton. He had Tyson, Statham, Bailey, Appleyard and Wardle, not Malcolm, Fraser, Gough, Tufnell and Gooch. Nor, of course, did Crawley score a century as Cowdrey did: but he made it for us all a day to remember, hopefully as auspicious a one.



GRAHAM MORRIS

'McDermott will never be as good a bowler as Miller and Lindwall so long as he bowls in a watch'



Warner was so delighted with Cowdrey's success that he sent a telegram: 'Cowdrey, Melbourne. Magnificent. Warner.'



Cowdrey, fresh out of Oxford in 1954, was a surprise choice for Hutton's tour

Frost claims three fixtures

TODAY'S racing has been affected by the cold snap with three of the scheduled eight meetings, Catterick, Leicester and Market Rasen, cancelled because of frost.

However, the two main meetings, Cheltenham and Windsor, with Channel 4 coverage, are hopeful that racing will go ahead. Cheltenham, *which stages the £10,000-added ASW Handicap Chase* over an extended four miles, will, though, make a precautionary inspection at 8am. Windsor plan a precautionary inspection at 7.30am.

But the clerk of the course, Philip Arkwright, was in an optimistic mood yesterday. "We could have raced today," he said. "But with frost forecast, we will hold a precautionary inspection."

At Windsor, where the Oliver Sherwood-trained Large Action continues his Champion Hurdle build-up in the £15,000-added Cheveley Park Stud New Year's Day Hurdle, *no problems* are envisaged, with the going on the soft side.

A *racecourse spokesman* said *yesterday*: "We could have raced today. We had two degrees of frost overnight but we covered up. We are forecast to have the same again tonight and then four degrees above freezing in the morning. If that's the case, we've got no problems."

Exeter has also received the green light to race, although there was slight frost and snow over the weekend. But at Ayr, officials walked the track yesterday and decided to hold another inspection at 6.45am.

The clerk of the course, Sam Morshead, said yesterday: "We could race now but tomorrow's *meeting is* in the balance. It depends on the overnight frost, so we will have *an early inspection*. We are forecast between minus two and minus three tonight. If it is only minus two we will be all right. If it is four we will be off."

A total of 16 full meetings have now been called off so far this jumps season. No problems are anticipated for the all-weather Flat fixture at Southwell.

Warm greetings for Red Rum

RED RUM, winner of the Grand National in *1973, 1974* and 1977, and twice runner-up in the race, yesterday celebrat*ed his thirtieth birthday* "tucked up snugly in his box".

Ginger McCain, his owner and former trainer, said at his farm on the Marquess of Cholmondeley's estate in south Cheshire that he had received dozens of visitors all week and more than 300 cards. "He had a few visitors this morning but it has been sleeting and snowing and the weather is a bit miserable so he's tucked up snugly in his box."

McCain said Red Rum would not getting any special titbits. "It's just an ordinary day for him really, but it's nice to know so many people still care about him."

Three years ago the great chaser survived a severe illness caused by a blocked artery but McCain added: "He's grand. Fingers crossed, he's good for a year or two yet."

Well-wishers have sent greetings from all over the world and several included cash to buy the horse a treat such as his favourite, Polo mints. One fan sent a gift-boxed single red rose — which he ate. McCain added that Red Rum's real birthday is on May 3, when he receives yet more good wishes.

EXETER

THUNDERER

1.00 Spirit Level. 1.30 Brave Tornado. 2.05 Greenhil Tare Away. *2.40 Keep Me In Mind. 3.10 Pennymoor* Prince. 3.40 Northern Saddler. 4.10 Indian Tracker.

GOING: HEAVY

1.00 UPTON PYNE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,980: 2m 2f) (18 runners)

1 P3-0 MECADO 19 (V,D,G,S) F Yardley 8-11-11 M Molloy (7)
2 -455 CRAZY DAISY 20 (B,S) W G M Turner 8-11-8 T Murphy (7)
3 P533 MIRAMAC 7 (F,G,S) R Frost 14-11-3 Mr J Culloty (7)
4 0345 SOUTH SANDS 19 (C,D,F,G,S) A Forte 9-11-2 Mr L Jefford (7)
5 40F- STAR MARKET 278 (G,S) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-2 Mr S Joynes (7)
6 40-5 MARIOLINO 81 (F,G,S) P Rodford 8-11-1 S Burrough
7 45-6 PUNCHBAG 21 (C,G,S) G Ham 9-11-1 A P McCoy (3)
8 26-3 AL SKEET 12 (F) R Price 9-10-12 G Hogan (5)
9 -443 DANCING DANCER 19 (F) R Frost 6-10-8 R Darke
10 0-PP ALDAHE 21 (V,F,G,S) B Millman 10-10-7 D Salter (5)
11 P00- ONE TO NOTE 258 (S) M Muggeridge 11-10-6 Mr G Brown
12 4604 KAYFAAT 25 (B,G) M Pipe 7-10-6 M Foster
13 P-P3 MILDRED SOPHIA 19 (S) N Mitchell 8-10-3 Miss S Mitchell (7)
14 4562 SPIRIT LEVEL 7 J Payne 7-10-2 B Powell
15 P0P5 CHAMPAGNE RUN 21 (B,C,F,G) S Knight 10-10-2 V Slattery
16 15/P CRYSTAL CONE 53 (S) A Forte 9-10-0 W McFarland
17 0PP0 JOKERS PATCH 19 (B,S) R Baker 8-10-0 D Leahy (3)
18 P0P/ SIMPLY SPIM 1138 Mrs H Fullerton 8-10-0 R Davis

5-1 Kayfaat, 6-1 Crazy Daisy, 7-1 South Sands, 8-1 Dancing Dancer, Star Market, 10-1 Miramac, Al Skeet, 14-1 others.

1.30 THURLESTONE HOTEL JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,360: 2m 2f) (8)

1 4122 FLEUR DE TAL 47 (C,F,G) W G M Turner 11-7 T Murphy (7)
2 12 BRAVE TORNADO 23 (S) G Balding 11-5 A P McCoy (3)
3 ASK HARRY R Alner 10-12 S Earle
4 F CADOUGOLD 31 (BF) M Pipe 10-12 M Foster
5 04 DRY SEA 34 R Frost 10-12 J Frost
6 44 MELNIK 21 G Harwood 10-12 M Perrett
7 SAAFI 205F R Baker 10-12 B Powell
8 4 FOLLY FINNESSE 38 B Millman 10-7 D Salter (5)

5-4 Brave Tornado, 7-2 Cadougold, 4-1 Fleur De Tal, 6-1 Folly Finnesse, Melnik, 14-1 Saafi, 16-1 others

2.05 DAVID GARRETT MEMORIAL GOLD CHALLENGE TROPHY NOVICES CHASE
(£6,167: 2m 7f 110yd) (8)

1 11F1 GREENHIL TARE AWAY 21 (F,G,S) P Hobbs 7-11-7 Peter Hobbs
2 1F12 ROCKY PARK 19 (S) G Balding 8-11-7 J Frost
3 -341 SHAMARPHIL 21 (F,S) K Bishop 9-11-2 B Powell
4 -252 A N C EXPRESS 21 (S) J King 7-11-0 T Jenks
5 32/P FIRST DESIGN 58 (G) P Jones 8-11-0 Mr J Culloty
6 F0P0 GUSHY 31 (B) R Baker 9-11-0 S Burrough
7 6P IN THE CHOIR 27 R Alner 7-10-9 S Earle
8 6 LAURA'S FLUTTER 19 R Baker 6-10-9 G Hogan

7-4 Greenhil Tare Away, 9-4 A N C Express, 3-1 Shamarphil, 4-1 Rocky Park, 20-1 First Design, In The Choir, 25-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Cheltenham: 2.45 Diamond Fort. Exeter: 1.00 Aldahe

2.40 HALDON SUNDAY MARKET HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,590: 2m 2f) (7)

1 21-1 TRYING AGAIN 7 (S) D Gandolfo 7-12-1 (6ex) Miss S Mitchell (7)
2 -4FP CABOCHON 30 (G,S) R Frost 8-12-0 J Frost
3 0203 KEEP ME IN MIND 7 (S) N Mitchell 6-11-10 D Skyrme
4 005- LOCH GARANNE 258F (S) R Buckler 7-11-9 G Hogan (5)
5 2325 ZEALOUS KITTEN 17 (BF,G,S) R Price 7-11-3 Chris Webb (7)
6 5243 RUNAWAY PETE 17 (F,G) A Barrow 5-10-6 B Powell
7 -5P2 DEVIOSITY 21 (F,G) N Ayliffe 8-10-0 A P McCoy (3)

6-4 Trying Again, 9-2 Keep Me In Mind, 5-1 Deviosity, 7-1 others.

3.10 DEEP WEALTH NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,316: 2m 2f) (9)

1 2841 PENNYMOOR PRINCE 7 (S) R Frost 6-11-12 (7ex) R Darke
2 0112 SPORTS VIEW 14 (BF,S) R Hodges 6-11-10 J Frost
3 F33P LANDSKER PRYDE 31 M Pipe 6-11-10 T Dascombe (7)
4 0-20 SHIMBA HILLS 17 Mrs J Retter 7-11-6 Mr J Culloty (7)
5 4-P2 MALWOOD CASTLE 20 R Alner 5-11-4 S Earle
6 3-P6 ABAVARD 21 (S) A Forte 6-11-3 A P McCoy (3)
7 -082 SPRING SAINT 4 Miss C Horler 6-10-12 Pat Thompson (7)
8 1335 FAWLEY FLYER 55 (C,F,G) W Turner 6-10-2 M Griffiths (7)
9 -123 COEUR BATTANT 18 (F) R Baker 5-10-0 B Powell

9-4 Sports View, 9-2 Pennymoor Prince, Malwood Castle, 5-1 others.

3.40 THURLESTONE HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,921: 2m 2f) (9)

1 /P6- CHIP AND RUN 436 (F,G) Mrs J Retter 9-11-10 Mr J Culloty (7)
2 -411 NORTHERN SADDLER 14 (F,G,S) R Hodges 8-11-5 Peter Hobbs
3 4123 COURT RAPIER 34 (D,F,G) R Alner 13-10-5 Mr P Henley (7)
4 1P/P DIBLOOM 13 (S) R Simpson 7-10-1 Miss P Jones
5 0022 LUCKY AGAIN 12 (G) C Popham 8-10-0 B Powell
6 454U ACHILTIBUIE 20 (F) F Yardley 11-10-0 J Da Costa
7 -050 IT'S AFTER TIME 13 (S) Mrs R Brackenbury 10-10-0 A P McCoy (3)
8 4000 DUNKERY BEACON 25 H Howe 9-10-0 Guy Lewis (5)
9 3-0P QUEENS CURATE 21 Mrs E Scott 8-10-0 S Earle

8-11 Northern Saddler, 5-1 Lucky Again, Court Rapier, 10-1 others.

4.10 HMS EXETER NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,413: 2m 2f) (14)

1 GENERAL SALUTE G Balding 5-11-5 A P McCoy (3)
2 INDIAN TRACKER N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5 T Jarvis (3)
3 JULTARA J Edwards 6-11-5 Mr M Daly (7)
4 04 KARICLEIGH LAD 16 Mrs J Retter 6-11-5 Mr J Culloty (7)
5 KIRSTY'S PAL D Bloomfield 6-11-5 Mr L Jefford (7)
6 OWENS DELIGHT R Frost 5-11-5 Ross Barry (7)
7 RIVERS END J Edwards 6-11-5 G Hogan (5)
8 24- TAP SHOES 345 R Baker 5-11-5 Mr Richard White (7)
9 WISE FLORIZEL M Ogle 6-11-5 R Arnold (7)
10 GREENACRES ROSE G Ham 5-11-0 Pat Thompson (7)
11 KERRY JANE M Babbage 5-11-0 A Shakespeare (7)
12 45- TARTAN MOSS 326 P Hobbs 6-11-0 Mr S Mulcaire (7)
13 GEMINI MIST Mrs P Dudfield 4-10-2 D Leahy (3)
14 SHIFT CHANGEOVER S Mellor 4-10-2 Chris Webb (7)

7-4 Indian Tracker, 3-1 Jultara, 8-1 Karicleigh Lad, Rivers End, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 64 winners from 206 runners, 31.1%; Mrs Nerys Dutfield, 4 from 13, 30.8%; P Hobbs, 20 from 96, 20.8%; Mrs J Retter, 11 from 64, 17.2%; G Balding, 10 from 61, 16.4%.

JOCKEYS: T Dascombe, 3 winners from 13 rides, 23.1%; M Foster, 7 from 34, 20.6%; Peter Hobbs, 13 from 76, 17.1%; D Leahy, 3 from 24, 12.5%; J Frost, 12 from 102, 11.8%.

AYR

THUNDERER

12.15 **GOBSMACKED** (nap). 12.45 Ambleside Harvest. 1.15 Palacegate King. 1.45 Barney Rubble. 2.15 Nicholas Plant. 2.50 Stop The Waller. 3.25 Great Max.

GOING: SOFT (6.45AM INSPECTION) SIS

12.15 DALRYMPLE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,369: 2m) (13 runners)

1 0 CARLEY LAD 35 G Richards 7-11-5 B Harding (5)
2 0-P0 CLAN REEL 39 (B) R Goldie 6-11-5 K Johnson
3 -332 CORSTON RACER 27 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-5 R Murphy (7)
4 -554 EMERALD SEA 27 J Barclay 6-11-5 G Cahill (7)
5 /3P MUSKET SHOT 7 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-5 Mr J Bradburne
6 11-5 NAUGHTY FUTURE 24 (BF,G,S) J J O'Neill 6-11-5 A Roche (3)
7 00- PETER 328 D Whillans 7-11-5 R Garritty
8 6-08 STORMY CORAL 39 C Parker 5-11-5 B Storey
9 R-05 TASHREEF 26 J Birkett 5-11-5 B Harding (5)
10 ROP0 MEADOWLECK 7 W Young 6-11-0 F Perratt (5)
11 P MILLSMAY 7 P Monteith 5-11-0 L O'Hara
12 0- YOUANDI 261 L Lungo 5-11-0 T Reed
13 1 GOBSMACKED 6 (D,S) G Richards 4-10-13 M Moloney

10-11 Gobsmacked, 5-2 Naughty Future, 7-1 Corston Racer, 10-1 others.

12.45 CULROY NOVICES CHASE (£2,814: 3m 1f) (10)

1 42U3 THE GREEN FOOL 16 (BF,F,G,S) V Thompson 8-11-11 Mr M Thompson
2 -45F AMBLESIDE HARVEST 25 (G,S) J J O'Neill 8-11-5 A Roche (3)
3 0-4F PIT PONY 7 (G,S) D Robertson 11-11-5 F Perratt (5)
4 3- RIVER BEE 272P W Reed 6-11-5 T Reed
5 -0U3 SHEELIN LAD 7 L Lungo 7-11-5 T Reed
6 /64 THISTLE MONARCH 52 (G,S) G Richards 10-11-5 M Moloney
7 32/ URON V 629 (F,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-5 N Smith
8 -348 EASTER OATS 7 (S) R Goldie 8-11-0 K Johnson
9 /P2 NUN ON THE RUN 39 J Oliver 9-11-0 B Storey
10 6 SEEKING GOLD 27 J Barclay 6-11-0 G Cahill (7)

3-1 Uron V, 7-2 Thistle Monarch, 4-1 Ambleside Harvest, 5-1 The Green Fool, 10-1 *Nun On The Run*, 12-1 Sheelin Lad, 14-1 River Bee, 16-1 others

1.15 AYR NEW YEAR HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,323: 2m) (5)

1 -3P0 ABBOT OF FURNESS 46 (CD,S) G Richards 11-11-10 B Harding (5)
2 23-1 PALACEGATE KING 40 (D,S) A Whillans 6-11-4 M Moloney
3 222- ARAGON AYR 263 (CD,S) P Monteith 7-11-2 G Cahill (7)
4 2-00 MY KERRY DANCER 26 (D,G) J J O'Neill 5-11-2 A Roche (3)
5 F-33 FAMILY LINE 28 (CD,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 7-10-1 F Perratt (5)

6-4 Palacegate King, 3-1 Family Line, 7-2 Abbot Of Furness, 9-2 Aragon Ayr, 6-1 My Kerry Dancer

1.45 VULMIDAS TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,469: 2m 4f) (11)

1 6-3U PRECIPICE RUN 20 (C,D,BF,G,S) G Richards 10-11-11 M Moloney
2 3-56 KAMBALDA RAMBLER 39 (D,S) C Parker 11-11-9 B Storey
3 PFP- DEADLINE 228 (B,D,G,S) S Chadwick 12-11-7 Miss J Thurlow
4 4211 *BARNEY RUBBLE* 7 (C,G,S) D Whillans 10-11-1 (6ex) B Harding (5)
5 -334 THE LORRYMAN 16 (D,F) L Lungo 7-10-12 T Reed
6 -4F2 FUNNY OLD GAME 40 (CD,S) D McCune 8-10-11 K Johnson
7 6425 BLAZING DAWN 16 (D,G,S) V Thompson 8-10-10 Mr M Thompson
8 3553 OLE OLE 5 (F,S) Mrs E Moscrop 9-10-9 R Garritty
9 /U5 GALA WATER 40 (S) T Dun 9-10-8 L O'Hara
10 4306 EBRO 23 (C,D,G,S) V Thompson 9-10-0 G Cahill (7)
11 PP-0 CORBY KNOWE 40 J Barclay 9-10-0 F Perratt (5)

5-2 Barney Rubble, 3-1 Precipice Run, 9-2 Kambalda Rambler, 5-1 *The Lorryman*, 8-1 Funny Old Game, 12-1 Ole Ole, 14-1 Gala Water, 20-1 others

2.15 FRESH START CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,253: 2m) (6)

1 6-0P GLINDIGO 7 (D,G,S) P Monteith 7-11-8 G Cahill (7)
2 -644 NICHOLAS PLANT 7 J Goldie 6-11-8 F Perratt (5)
3 000 *HARGOLD LAD 7 R McKellar 5-11-6 R Hodge*
4 6- RACHAEL'S OWEN 500 T Dyer 5-11-4 B Storey
5 2-34 EMRAL MISS 38 G Richards 7-11-3 M Moloney
6 P0F0 MISS JEDD 35 W Young 8-11-2 R Murphy (7)

6-4 Emral Miss, 9-4 Nicholas Plant, 7-2 Glindigo, 5-1 Rachael's Owen, 14-1 others.

2.50 HURLFORD MAIDEN CHASE (£2,749: 2m) (7)

1 -PUF ASTON COURT 7 (S) P Monteith 10-11-3 L O'Hara
2 /33- DALUSMAN 409 T Carr 7-11-3 N Smith
3 U- GARCALL 364 (G) D Whillans 9-11-3 T Reed
4 -6P0 LOMOND SPRINGS 45 J Barclay 6-11-3 F Perratt (5)
5 3PU3 STOP THE WALLER 6 M Barnes 6-11-3 G Cahill (7)
6 P/4 THOMAS THE TANK 40 R Goldie 11-11-3 K Johnson
7 /06 MOSSIE GOLD 40 C Parker 8-11-2 B Storey

6-4 Stop The Waller, 3-1 Thomas The Tank, 4-1 Dalusman, 8-1 Aston Court, 10-1 Mossie Gold, 16-1 Garcall, Lomond Springs.

3.25 COYLTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,626: 2m 6f) (7)

1 2-23 GREAT MAX 39 (BF,S) C Parker 6-11-10 Mr D Parker (5)
2 32-1 TRONCHETTO 7 (C,F,S) J J O'Neill 6-11-3 (6ex) A Roche (3)
3 P12- SANSOOL 252 (V,S) A Whillans 9-11-0 M Moloney
4 -026 *BELLS HILL LAD 27 (D,BF,S) J Barclay 8-10-8* G Cahill (7)
5 /0-3 TRAP DANCER 14 (G) B Mactaggart 7-10-8 B Storey
6 /P5 ANOTHER DYER 17 (D,S) L Lungo 11-10-0 F Perratt (5)
7 /P6- GILMANSCLEUCH 275 J Oliver 7-10-0 K Johnson

6-4 Tronchetto, 9-4 Great Max, 9-2 Sansool, 7-1 Belle Hill Lad, 12-1 Trap Dancer, 20-1 Another Dyer, 50-1 Gilmanscleuch.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 30 winners from 101 runners, 29.7%; J J O'Neill, 14 from 54, 25.9%; G Richards, 42 from 169, 24.9%; M Barnes, 4 from 26, 15.4%; D McCune, 3 from 23, 13.0%.

JOCKEYS: A Roche, 5 winners from 16 rides, 31.3%; B Storey, 16 from 131, 12.2%; M Moloney, 7 from 61, 11.5%; F Perratt, 6 from 52, 11.5%; T Reed, 10 from 94, 10.6%.

Trainers' preferences

Fox Chapel 1 55 Windsor; Runaway Pete 2 40 Exeter

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

1.00 Sandmoor Denim. 1.30 Sense Of Priority. 2.00 Mizyan. 2.30 Shakiyr. 3.00 Durghams First. 3.30 Croft Pool.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.00 Just Harry. 2.00 **MIZYAN** (nap). 2.30 Fleet Cadet.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.00 FARTHING HANDICAP (£3,741: 1m) (10 runners)

1 046- WARHURST 186 (CD,G) D Nicholls 4-9-10 Alex Greaves 1
2 052- JUST HARRY 16 (CD,F,G) M Ryan 4-9-9 A Clark 3
3 160- MULLITOVER 16 (C,G,S) M Heaton-Ellis 5-9-8 Stephen Davies 6
4 003- QUEENS CONSUL 7J (CD,F,G) B Rothwell 5-9-6 M Fenton 5
5 114- SANDMOOR DENIM 23 (CD,BF,F,G) S Bowring 8-9-6 G Strange (7) 4
6 050- KARINSKA 4J (CD,F,G) M Chapman 5-9-2 D R McCabe (5) 10
7 0/0- HAROLDON 7 (D,F,G) B Palling 6-8-12 S Sanders (5) 7
8 040- ORTHORHOMBUS 18 (B,F) D Cosgrove 6-8-4 A Shoults 9
9 001- CICERONE 18 (CD,G,S) J L Harris 5-8-2 A Mackay 8
10 003- WILD ADVENTURE 12J D Chapman 6-7-7 J Quinn 2

5-2 Queens Consul, 7-2 Sandmoor Denim, 4-1 Just Harry, 5-1 Cicerone, 7-1 Haroldon, 10-1 Mullitover, 12-1 others.

1.30 HALF-CROWN CLAIMING STAKES (£2,537: 7f) (14)

1 4/0- *BOLD CYRANO 6 B Palling 4-9-3* A Clark 8
2 053- DREAM CARRIER 41 (CD,F,G) T Barron 7-8-13 L Dettori 11
3 034- JAMAICA BRIDGE 119 (C,BF,G) S Norton 5-8-13 J Stack (5) 12
4 060- PERILOUS PLIGHT 16 (D,F) W Muir 4-8-11 J Weaver 14
5 024- SUPER BENZ 7 (CD,F,G,S) F O'Mahony 9-8-10 G Carter 7
6 050- *BOLD MICK 114 (S) D Murray Smith 4-8-9* Stephen Davies 8
7 ASMARINA 38J S Bowring 5-8-4 C Teague (7) 3
8 000- IT'S SO EASY 23 (D,G,S) M Johnston 4-8-4 J Fanning 4
9 300- PROFIT RELEASE 50 (D,F) M Johnston 4-8-4 T Williams 6
10 643- SENSE OF PRIORITY 7 (C,D,F,G) M H Easterby 6-8-4 W Woods 1
11 005- BRADWELL 33 (F) M Tompkins 4-8-2 S Mulvey (5) 13
12 006- BALLAD DANCER 23 (D,F,G,S) J Mackie 10-8-1 N Carlisle 2
13 500- MONSIEUR PETONG 18 (G) D Nicholls 4-8-1 A Eddery (7) 10
14 D00- BRITANNIA MILLS 65J (F) M Chapman 4-6-0 D R McCabe (5) 5

9-2 Profit Release, 6-1 Dream Carrier, 7-1 Sense Of Priority, 8-1 Perilous Plight, It's So Easy, Bold Mick, 10-1 Super Benz, 12-1 others.

2.00 ALEXANDRA MOTORS HANDICAP (£3,067: 2m) (8)

1 20/ ELECTROLYTE 369J (C,G) B Palling 5-9-13 Stephen Davies 6
2 14- MIZYAN 25J (C,G) J Banks 7-9-12 S Keightley 2
3 422- *ARGYLE CAVALIER 79 (CD,F,G,S) M Johnston 5-9-11* Oliver Casey (7) 1
4 606- ARCTIC GUEST 13 (C,D,F,G) C Smith 5-9-9 M Baird (7) 4
5 4/5- SHAFFIC 325 (F) Mrs M Reveley 8-8-13 L Dettori 5
6 035- BETTY KENWOOD 126J Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-5 S D Williams 3
7 010- *TOP PRIZE 108 (CD,F,G) M Brittain 7-7-12* G Bardwell 7
8 000- FIERY SUN 7 (V) J Eyre 10-7-7 J Quinn 8

Evens Argyle Cavalier, 9-4 Mizyan, 4-1 Shaffic, 10-1 Betty Kenwood, 12-1 Electrolyte, 16-1 Arctic Guest, 20-1 others.

2.30 EAST MIDLAND ELECTRICITY-LINCOLN MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,024: 1m 3f) (10)

1 600- COMFORTABLE 75 (E) S Gollings 5-9-2 Stephen Davies 5
2 000- DALLAI 25J Mrs N Macauley 4-8-12 S Sanders (5) 6
3 0- FLEET CADET 52 N Graham 4-8-12 J Weaver 1
4 500- LEGAL FICTION 81 M Johnston 4-8-12 T Williams 10
5 4- SHAKIYR 70 R Hollinshead 4-8-12 L Dettori 8
6 0/0- UCKERBY LAD 25J N Littmoden 4-8-12 T G McLaughlin (5) 2
7 00- MURPHYS WAY 588 J Eyre 6-8-11 J Stack (5) 3
8 00- DOLLY DOLITTLE 52 H Collingridge 4-8-7 C Hawksley (5) 4
9 60- FELINE 35 R Johnson Houghton 4-8-7 J Quinn 7
10 000- I FEAR NOTHING 18 S Williams 4-8-7 G Carter 9

3-1 Legal Fiction, 4-1 Shakiyr, 9-2 Dallai, 5-1 Fleet Cadet, 6-1 I Fear Nothing, 8-1 Feline, 14-1 Murphys Way, 16-1 others

3.00 FLORIN SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,259: 1m) (13)

1 020- *DURGAMS FIRST 62 (G) Mrs M Reveley 8-3* G Parkin (7) 2
2 000- JOINT PROSPECT 95 C C Elsey 8-12 C Rutter 8
3 504- LAWBUSTER 79 W Muir 8-12 D Harrison 1
4 0- PC'S CRUISER 18 M Chapman 8-12 D R McCabe (5) 6
5 003- RUNFORACTION 18 (C,G) B Rothwell 8-12 J Stack (5) 7
6 045- VADE RETRO SATANAS 23 C Tinkler 8-12 M Fenton 5
7 050- BRETTON PRINCESS 23 R Hollinshead 8-7 L Dettori 13
8 DENT'S DELIGHT D Chapman 8-7 M Rimmer 4
9 MADAM SUNPAK Mrs V Aconley 8-7 S Drowne (5) 3
10 66- MAYDAY KITTY 289 W G M Turner 8-7 N Adams 11
11 0- MISS SUZY 79 J Leigh 8-7 Stephen Davies 12
12 NANNY DOON M Johnston 8-7 T Williams 10
13 VISUAL ILLUSION B Rothwell 8-7 J Quinn 9

3-1 Durgams First, 5-1 Nanny Doon, Runforaction, 6-1 Vade Retro Satanas, Lawbuster, Mayday Kitty, 10-1 Joint Prospect, 12-1 others.

3.30 CAMILLA HANDICAP (£3,640: 6f) (11)

1 101- CROFT POOL 19 (C,G) J Glover 4-10-0 L Dettori 3
2 030- WARWICK WARRIOR 16 (E,CD,F,G) Mrs L Piggott 4-9-8 Victoria Appleby (7) 11
3 000- BELLA PARKES 88 (D,F,S) D Nicholls 4-9-6 Alex Greaves 1
4 000- FAEZ 16 (S) P Felgate 5-9-4 T Ives 5
5 403- GREEN'S BID 6 (D,G) D Chapman 5-9-0 Dale Gibson 4
6 300- WATHEEQAH 33 (B,F) M Brittain 4-8-11 G Bardwell 9
7 221- HINEACRES 13 (B,F,G) D Nicholls 4-8-11 A Eddery (7) 2
8 315- *LANGTONIAN 18 (V,C,D,BF,G) J Eyre 6-8-4* N Carlisle 7
9 000- NEZ CARRERA 6J R Whitaker 4-8-3 D Wright (5) 6
10 040- CHARDONNAY GIRL 13 J Carr 4-7-9 N Adams 8
11 501- MATTHEW DAVID 6 (CD,G) S Bowring 5-7-6 (7ex) J Quinn 10

9-4 Croft Pool, 7-2 Hineacres, 5-1 Matthew David, Green's Bid, 8-1 Faez, Langtonian, 12-1 Warwick Warrior, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 12 winners from 43 runners, 27.9%; S Norton, 32 from 148, 21.6%; M Johnston, 26 from 126, 20.6%; M Ryan, 10 from 56, 17.9%; D Nicholls, 5 from 31, 16.1%; C C Elsey, 6 from 38, 15.8%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 25 winners from 122 rides, 20.5%; J Weaver, 18 from 102, 17.6%; Alex Greaves, 33 from 212, 15.6%; D Harrison, 18 from 116, 15.5%; G Strange, 4 from 32, 12.5%. Only qualifiers.

Ashes woes give edge to A team

By Our Sports Staff

ENGLAND A play their India tour opener in Bombay tomorrow *determined to reverse the* run of misfortune that has dogged the senior cricket team in Australia.

The shadow England squad were so determined in practice yesterday that the team manager, Phil Neale, paid tribute to the touring party after a punishing training schedule *in the Brabourne Stadium*.

"You can tell Test places are up for grabs," Neale said before naming a powerful team to play a 50-overs match against the Cricket Club of India.

Nick Knight, who is joining Warwickshire next season, will open the England batting *with Jason Gallian, of Lancashire*, and the touring teamincludes the left-arm spinners. Richard Stemp and Min Patel, to perform on a pitch certain to take spin.

Neale, receiving regular reports of England's Ashes misfortunes, insisted England A would try to dominate all *matches on the tour with the* traditional English strength of discipline, fight and patience.

"It is clear from the way the players are performing in practice that what's going on in Australia has given them an even greater incentive to do well."

He believes his squad, *younger than the all-conquering* A team he led in South Africa last winter, has equal strength in batting and bowling but is better equipped in the field.

Neale said: "We have spe*cialist slip fielders here and* our ground fielding and throwing has been exceptional in practice."

The Cricket Club of India will field a strong side contain*ing Rohan Gavaskar, son of* the former India Test batsman and captain, Sunil. Also included in the line-up is Amol Muzumdar, who distinguished himself last year by making a world-record 260 runs for a first-class debut for Bombay.

☐ The opener, Alistair Campbell, *recorded an unbeaten 129* as Zimbabwe recovered from an appalling start to beat Queensland Chairman's XI by one wicket in a limited-overs match at Bundaberg yesterday. Facing the home side's 245 for seven from 50 overs, Zimbabwe collapsed to 33 for five before Campbell lifted *them to victory at 246 for nine* with four balls to spare.

Campbell, who scored his runs off 153 balls, tilted the balance in a sixth-wicket partnership of 173 with Ian Butchart, who made 87. Fittingly, Campbell scored the winning runs by hitting the second ball of the final over to the boundary.

The Chairman's XI, a virtually full-strength state side, failed to capitalise fully on ideal batting conditions. Martin Love, their middle order batsman, was top scorer with 79 and Matthew Hayden made 52.

TEAM

ENGLAND A: A Wells (Sussex, capt), N Knight (Warwicks), J Gallian (Lancs), M Ramprakash (Middlesex), D Hemp (Glamorgan), P Weekes (Middlesex), D Cork (Derby), P Nixon (Leics), G Chapple (Lancs), R Stemp (Yorks), M Patel (Kent)

Cronje intends to emulate legend

SOUTH Africa hope to emulate the 1888 England side led *by the great* W. G. Grace when they take on New Zealand in the third Test match in Cape Town, which starts tomorrow.

Only once before in the history of cricket has a team won a three-Test series after losing the opener.

The South Africa captain, Hansie Cronje, might not quite measure up to W. G., who inspired an England fightback against Australia more than a century ago. However, having seen his side subside meekly to New Zealand by 137 runs in Johannesburg in November, Cronje led a spirited fightback in Durban last week to an eight-wicket triumph.

New Zealand are likely to stick with the team on duty in Durban. "Regarding personnel, *I don't think we can look* to make changes," the captain, Ken Rutherford, said. "The 11 we used in Durban are pretty much the best 11 we *have on tour*."

South Africa have dropped the opener, Andrew Hudson, after a sequence of just 56 runs in his last eight Test innings. He has been replaced by Rudolf Steyn, of Orange Free State.

The Western Province captain, Eric Simons, has been brought into the squad as cover for the seamer, Craig Matthews, who injured rib and stomach muscles during the second Test.

With a reputation for flat and slow pitches, the Newlands ground will be approached with caution, despite both captains' assurances that they will not be satisfied with a shared series.

"*It sounds like it's set up for* a result, which is great," Rutherford said. "I think the *public is sick and tired of* watching boring Tests on flat tracks."

هكذا من الاصل

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL): Wild-card play-offs: First round: National conference: Green Bay 16 Detroit 12. American conference: Miami 27 Kansas City 17

American Football Conference

East division	W	L	PF	PA
*Miami	10	6	369	327
†New England	10	6	351	312
Indianapolis	8	8	307	320
Buffalo	7	9	340	356
NY Jets	6	10	264	320
Central division				
*Pittsburgh	12	4	316	234
†Cleveland	11	5	340	204
Cincinnati	3	13	276	406
Houston	2	14	226	352
West division				
*San Diego	11	5	381	306
†Kansas City	9	7	319	298
LA Raiders	9	7	303	327
Denver	7	9	347	396
Seattle	6	10	287	323

National Football Conference

East division	W	L	PF	PA
*Dallas	12	4	414	248
†NY Giants	9	7	279	305
Arizona	8	8	235	267
Philadelphia	7	9	308	308
Washington	3	13	320	412
Central division				
*Minnesota	10	6	356	314
†Detroit	9	7	357	342
†Green Bay	9	7	382	287
†Chicago	9	7	271	307
Tampa Bay	6	10	251	351
West division				
*San Francisco	13	3	505	296
Atlanta	7	9	317	385
New Orleans	7	9	348	407
LA Rams	4	12	286	365

* division title
† play-off berth

COLLEGE MATCHES: Holiday Bowl: Michigan 24 Colorado State 14. Gator Bowl: Tennessee 45 Virginia Tech 23. Sun Bowl: Texas 35 North Carolina 31. Heritage Bowl: South Carolina State 31 Grambling 27

ATHLETICS

DURHAM: International cross country meeting: Men: IAAF World Challenge (9.2km) 1, I Kirui (Ken) 30min 03sec; 2, A Pearson (GB) 30 12; 3, S Hissou (Mor) 30 14. Standings: 1, J Kariuki (Ken) 38pts; 2, P Evans (GB) 32; 3, J Junquera (Por) 31. Open race (3.3km) 1, P Mowbray (Edinburgh Univ) 10 15; 2, A Whiteman (GEC Avionics) 10 23; 3, N Comerford (Cardiff) 10 25 (9.2 miles) 1, M Hibbard (Thames Valley) 33 00; 2, T Field (Sunderland) 33 35; 3, S Dodd (Blackheath) 33 36. Teams: 1, Sunderland 32pts; 2, Elvet Striders 69; 3, Elswick 81. Women: IAAF series (6.2km) 1, R Cheruiyot (Ken) 22 37; 2, C McKiernan (Ire) 23 04; 3, P Radcliffe (GB) 23 08. Standings: 1, C McKiernan (Ire) 63; 2, R Cheruiyot (Ken) 47; 3, M Keszeg (Rom) 32. Open race (1.7km) 1, L Kremlyova (Russ) 6 00; 2, A Griffiths (Sale) 6 06; 3, M Faherty (Skyrac) 6.14 (4.7km) 1, N Slater (Radley Ladies) 18 32; 2, A Outram (Parkside Harrow) 18 47; 3, C Pauzers (Herne Hill) 19 17. Teams: 1, Tynedale 54; 2, Middlesbrough and Cleveland 84; 3, Spenborough 90

BIRMINGHAM: National indoor games: Men: 60m: M Rosswess (Birchfield) 6 67sec. 200m: D Braithwaite (Haringey) 20 87. 400m: P Crampton (Spenborough) 48 40sec. 800m: M Sesay (Loughborough) 1min 51 23sec. 1,500m: I Grime (Newham and Essex Beagles) 3:50 40. 3,000m: S White (Coventry Godiva) 3 09 79. 60m hurdles: M Nicholson (Birchfield) 8 23sec. High jump: A Lynch (Thames Valley Harriers) 2 05m. Pole vault: D Mellor (Rotherham) 4 60m. Long jump: B Williams (Wolverhampton and Bilston) 7 13 metres. Triple jump: O Akinsanya (Peterborough) 15 14m. Shot: S Whyte (Thames Valley Harriers) 16 17m. Women: 60m: S Douglas (Sale) 7 40sec. 200m: S Williams (Team Solent) 24 36. 400m: S Earnshaw (Rotherham) 54 36. 800m: J Jones (Southampton) 2min 16 26sec. 1,500m: M Faherty (Skyrac) 4 25 43. 3,000m: S Bentley (City of Stoke) 9 38 75. 60m hurdles: S Farquharson (Cardiff) 8 42sec. High jump: L Haggett (Croydon) 1 85m. Long jump: J White (Tamworth) 5 68m. Triple jump: H Moody (Skyrac) 10 54 metres. Pole vault: P Wilson (not attached to a club) 3 40m. Shot: P Richards (Birchfield) 11 17m.

SÃO PAULO: Sao Silvestre road race: 15km: Men: 1, R da Costa (Br) 44min 11sec; 2, S Guerra (Ecuador) 44 14; 3, G Silva (Mex) 44 22; 4, V Cordeiro (Br) 44 24; 5, A Abebe (Eth) 44 53. Women: 1, D Tula (Eth) 51 17; 2, H Kimaiyo (Ken) 51 39; 3, M del Carmen Dias (Mex), 51 51; 4, K Kiewl (Ken) 52 24; 5, R Moneruaio (It) 52 46.

ROAD RACES: Wimbledon and Lauriston (7m) 1, J Watson (Thames Hare and Hounds) 37 20; 2, A Brennan (Sutton) 37 56; 3, D Hill (Thames Hare and Hounds) 39 12. Coventry: Philips Festival (5m): 1, C Warren (Cannock and Stafford) 24 21; 2, K Lamb (Tipton) 24 34; 3, M Boudstridge (Birchfield) 24.35. Team: 1, Birchfield 14pts; 2, Coventry Godiva 48; 3, Massey Ferguson 84. Women: 1, E McKenzie (Massey Ferguson) 28 29; 2, M Lo (Bicester) 29 36; 3, C Pauzers (Herne Hill) 29 48. Team: Massey Ferguson. Hyde Park (10km): 1, J Harrison (Blackheath Harriers) 30 42; 2, S Newport (Blackheath Harriers) 30 46; 3, H Jones (Ranelagh Harriers) 31 49. Women: 1, C Horne (Crawley) 36 12. New Year's Day race (10km) 1, K Tadesse (Belgrave) 30 50; 2, A Kokai (Ilford/Kenya) 30 52; 3, W Griswood (Ealing, Southall and Middlesex) 32.26. Teams: 1, World Sports Exchange (US) 45pts; 2, Serpentine 74; 3, Belgrave 87. Women: 1, M Bradley (Medway) 36.51; 2, G Bakoulis (US) 37 06; 3, M Griffiths (Epsom and Ewell) 36 41. Team: Serpentine 34. Victoria Park, Hackney: New Year's Day race (10km). 1, J Wheeler (Leeds City) 31 44; 2, H Jones (Ranelagh) 31 45; 3, D Lennon (Dag 88) 33 37. Team: Dagenham 88. Perivale: New Year's Day race (5m): 1, K Kay (Hillingdon) 26.28; 2, S Neale (Gade Valley) 27 15; 3, M Dyson (Gade Valley) 27 59

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 87 Atlanta 85. Indiana 96 New Jersey 79; Orlando 116 LA Clippers 105; San Antonio 115 Washington 101; Boston 124 Detroit 107. New York 90 Minnesota 81; Chicago 133 Miami 98. Dallas 110 Golden State 94, Charlotte 101 Milwaukee 94, Denver 118 Portland 114, LA Lakers 127 Phoenix 112. Houston 111 Utah 103; Sacramento 85 Philadelphia 82.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	23	6	.793	—
New York	15	12	.556	7
Boston	11	17	.393	11½
New Jersey	12	19	.387	12½
Philadelphia	10	18	.357	12½
Miami	9	18	.333	13
Washington	7	19	.269	14½
Central division				
Cleveland	20	8	.714	—
Indiana	17	9	.654	2
Charlotte	16	12	.571	4
Chicago	15	13	.536	5
Atlanta	12	17	.414	8½
Detroit	9	17	.346	10
Milwaukee	9	18	.333	10½

Western Conference

Midwest division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	19	9	.679	—
Houston	18	9	.667	½
San Antonio	15	10	.600	2½
Dallas	13	12	.520	1½
Denver	14	13	.519	4½
Minnesota	6	20	.231	12
Pacific division				
Phoenix	21	7	.750	—
Seattle	18	9	.667	2½
LA Lakers	17	9	.654	3
Sacramento	15	12	.556	5½
Portland	13	13	.500	7
Golden State	10	17	.370	10½
LA Clippers	4	25	.148	17½

CRYSTAL PALACE: WICB invitation tournament: Men: Thames Valley Tigers 107 (Holley 25) Trencon (Slovak) 82 (Lukjanec 41), London Towers 98 (Scott 26) Glasgow Brightsiders 38 (Birch 10). Leopards 75 Danone Honved (Hun) 98. Women: Thames Valley Tigers 45 London Heat 51: England 77 (Castle 33) London Heat (Davis 18) 70. Junior men: Glasgow Brightsiders 50 London Towers 103, Delta Notre Dame 85 Thames Valley Tigers 54.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Adelaide (second day of four) South Australia 524-8 dec (J Brayshaw 134 not out, G Blewett 112, P Nobes 110, D Lehmann 100). Victoria 171-5 (M Elliot 66). Perth (third day of four) New South Wales 205 and 241-5 (P Emery 78 not out, N Maxwell 68 not out), Western Australia 542-4 dec (J Langer 241 not out)

EAST LONDON, South Africa: Tour match (first day of tour) Border 218-9 v Sri Lankans.

CYCLING

TIME TRIALS: CC Breckland (Wymondham, Norfolk, 10 miles): 1, Z Carr (Leo RC), 22min 5sec; 2, J King (Pro Circuit), 23:23; 3, I Brown (King's Lynn CC), 24·48. Team: CC Breckland, 1:16·01. Cestra CC (Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, 10 miles): 1, R Mitford (Cestra CC), 25·09; 2, H Walker (GS Metro), 25:10; 2, B Walker (GS Metro), 25·49. Southborough and District Wheelers (Bethersden, Kent, 10 miles): 1, M Whitehead (VC Deal), 23:02; 2, B Taylor (Bournemouth Arrow CC), 23:37; 3, P Main (34 Nomads). 24.04. Team: 34 Nomads, 1:14·33.

ROAD RACE: Sean Yates Cyclo Sportive handicap (Dorking, Surrey, 52 miles): 1, A Doyle (Futurama), 2:09:50; 2, D Nie (Twickenham CC), 3, S Smith (Rider), all same time.

CYCLO-CROSS: Crabwood CC (Southampton, 11 miles) 1, B Clarke (Team Raleigh), 54:05; 2, J Norfolk (VC St Raphael), same time; 3, S Blunt (Wembley RC), at 1 13.

DARTS

PURFLEET: WDC world championship: Quarter-finals. P Evison (Eng) bt K Spiolek (Eng) 4-1; R Harrington (Eng) bt J Harvey (Scot) 4-1; P Taylor (Eng) bt B Anderson (Eng) 4-1; J Lowe (Eng) bt D Smith (Eng) 4-0

FRIMLEY GREEN: Embassy BDO World Championship: First round: O Askew (Eng) bt S Beaton (Eng) 3-2.

HOCKEY

BRISTOL: Divisional tournament: Under-18: West 1 Midlands 3; South East 2 East 2; North West 0 South West 0, North East 3 West 3; Midlands 1 North West 1, South West 2 South East 1; East 2 North East 0; West 2 East 2; South East 0 North West 0; Midlands 2 North East 3; West 2 North West 3, South West 3 East 1, South East 2 East 2; South West 1 Midlands 0. Final standings: 1, South West 14pts; 2, Midlands 10; 3, North West 10; 4, North East 6; 5, South East 6; 6, East 6; 7, West 2. Under-16: North East 0 West 4; South East 2 East 0; Midlands 5 North West 2; South West 1 South East; East 0 North East 1, West 0 Midlands 3; North West 0 South West 2, Midlands 4 North East 0, West 0 North West 0 (match abandoned); South East 9 North East 0; West 0 East 0, South West 3 Midlands 2; South West 5 North West 0. Final standings: 1, Midlands 13pts, 2, South West 12; 3, South East 11, 4, West 9; 5, East 7, 6, North East 6, 7, North West 1

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff 17 Bracknell 5; Fife 8 Edinburgh 10; Nottingham 14 Milton Keynes 5. First division: Chelmsford 11 Blackburn 8, Paisley 10 Dumfries 7; Slough 14 Lee Valley 2; Swindon 11 Solihull 4

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY: National premier trophy: Old Wac 4 Timperley 21: Boardman and Eccles 2 Cheadle 17. North Of England League: First division: Boardman and Eccles A 2 Cheadle 17; Old Waconians 4 Timperley 21. Second division: Cheadle A 4 Cheadle Hulme 12; Heaton Mersey A 13 Stopfordians 8. Hulmeians 17 Norbury 0. Third division: Stockport A 19 Poynton A 3; Cheadle Hulme A v Old Waconians A; Cheadle B v Boardman and Eccles A; Ashton A v Sale A; Stopfordians A v Hulmeians A.

MOTOR RALLYING

MOTRIL, Spain: Paris-Dakar rally: First stage (170 km, Granada to Motril): 1, T Saionen (Fin, Citroen) 2hr 10min 33sec; 2, A Vatanen (Fin, Citroen) at 3min 2sec behind; 3, P Lartigue (Fr, Citroen) 3:40, 4, J-P Fontenay (Fr, Mitsubishi) 9:53; 5, B Saby (Fr, Mitsubishi) 11·48, 6 Kenjiro Shinozuka (Japan, Mitsubishi) 12:17; 7, S Servia (Sp, Citroen) 28:09; 8, Hiroshi Masuoka (Japan, Mitsubishi) 37:51, 9, D Quenes (Por, Nissan) 38:48; 10, D Housieaux (Fr, Nissan) 40:37. Motorcycle standings: 1, H Kinigadner (Austria, KTM) 2hr 18min 29sec; 2, S Peterhansel (Fr, Yamaha) 48sec behind; 3, J Mayer (Ger, KTM) 4:38, 4, R Sainct (Fr, Honda) 4:38, 5, T Magnaldi (Fr, Yamaha) 4.53

SKI JUMPING

OBERSTDORF: Four Hills competition: First event: 1, R Schwarzenberger (Austria) 227.9pts (112.5m, 118m); 2, A Goldberger (Austria) 226 7 (113, 113.5); 3, J Weissflog (Ger) 225.1 (118, 106.5), 4, J Ahonen (Fin) 222.1 (113.5, 116), 5, A-P Nikkola (Fin) 222.1 (114 5, 110); 6, T Okabe (Japan) 221.0 (106.5, 118 5); 7, G Siegmund (Ger) 218.1, equal 8 D Thoma (Ger) and R Cecon (It) 217.6; 10, Kazuyoshi Funaki (Japan) 216.7.

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN: Four Hills competition: Second event: 1, J Ahonen (Fin) 247.8pts, 2, A Goldberger (Austria) 241.8; 3, J Soininen (Fin) 231.8; 4, Kazuyoshi Funaki (Japan) 230 7; 5, T Nieminen (Fin) 222.9; 6, A-P Nikkola (Fin) 222; 7, N Dessum (Fr) 219.2, 8, Takanobu Okabe (Japan) 218.8; 9, N Jean-Prost (Fr) 215.8; 10, H Jaekle (Ger) 214.3. Four Hills standings: 1, J Ahonen (Fin) 469.7; 2, A Goldberger (Austria) 468.5; 3, Kazuyoshi Funaki (Japan) 447.4; 4, A-P Nikkola (Fin) 444.4; 5, J Soininen (Fin) 442.6; 6, Takanobu Okabe (Japan) 439.8; 7, H Jaekle (Ger) 425.8; 8, N Dessum (Fr) 424 3; 9, J Weissflog (Ger) 422.6; 10, N Jean-Prost (Fr) 418 4. World Cup Standings: 1, A Goldberger (Austria) 340pts; 2, J Ahonen (Fin) 260; 3, K Funaki (Japan) 216; 4, J Soininen (Fin) 152; 5, A-P Nikkola (Fin) 131; 6, L Ottesen (Nor) 130; 7, M Laitinen (Fin) 125; 8, J Weissflog (Ger) 123; 9, Takanobu Okabe (Japan) 122; 10, F Petek (Sloven) 108.

SKIING

MERIBEL: Women's World Cup slalom: 1, U Hrovat (Slovenia) 1min 20.15sec; 2, V Schneider (Switz) 1:20.24; 3, L Piccard (Fr) 1:20.74; 4, A Wachter (Austria) 1:20 78; 5, P Wiberg (Swe) 1:21.42, 6, M Ertl (Ger) 1:21.87; 7, P Chauvet (Fr) 1:22.15; 8, K Seizinger (Ger) 1:22.19; 9, M Accola (Switz) 1 22.31; 10, G Zingre-Graf (Switz) 1:22.36. World Cup standings: Overall: 1, H Zeller-Bashler (Switz) 485pts; 2, Schneider 466; 3, Seizinger 393; 4, Wiberg 345; 5, H Lindh (US) 304; 6, Ertl 295; 7, Hrovat 250; 8, P Street (US) 225, 9, S Panzanini (It) 212; 10, A Wachter (Austria) 211. Slalom: 1, Schneider 280pts; 2, Wiberg 175; 3, Hrovat 143; P Chauvet 121; 5, K Andersson (Swe) 116; 6, Accola 112; 7, B Filliol (Fr) 105, 8, Wachter 90; 9, Piccard 89; 10, A Coberger (NZ) 88.

TABLE TENNIS

STOURBRIDGE: Third international match: England 3 China 3 (English names first: A Cooke lost to J Shan 21-19 15-21 13-21; M Syed lost to K Linghui 21-19 19-21 19-21; C Prean lost to X Ke 12-21 14-21; Chen Xinhua bt Jiang 21-18 21-19; Syed bt Li 21-15 21-11; Cooke bt Xiong 21-17 19-21 21-18). Six-match series level at one win and one draw each.

TENNIS

PERTH: Hopman Cup mixed team tournament: First round: Austria 2 Argentina 1. (Austria names first) J Wiesner bt I Gorrochategui 6-1, 7-5; H Skoff bt J Frana 6-1, 6-4; Wiesner and Skoff lost to Gorrochategui and Frana 4-6, 5-7. Australia 2 South Africa 1. (Australia names first); K Radford lost to A Coetzer 6-1, 6-1. P Cash bt C van Rensburg 7-5, 6-2; Radford and Cash bt Coetzer and Van Rensburg 7-6, 7-6.

SHEFFIELD: LTA winter series: Men: Tableau Finale: C Edmondson (Lancs) bt J Revill (Notts) 7-5, 7-5; S Keelan (Lancs) bt J Taylor (Yorks) 6-3, 6-3. Women: Quarter-final: K Webster (Derbys) bt A Smith (Yorkshire) 6-1, 6-0

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE: Second leg (from Cape Town to Sydney). Class one: 1, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 24days 23hours 40mins; 2, Vendée Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 300 miles 27·10:37; 3, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 28:02:12; 4, Coyote (D Scully, US) 28:08:04; 5, Novell South Africa (J Provoyeur, SA) 28:20:06. Other positions (at 08:00 GMT yesterday with miles to Sydney): 6, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US) 868, 7, Ecureuil Poitou Charentes 2 (I Autissier, Fr) 1,389. Class two: 1, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 28 02.27; 2, True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 28:04:28. Other positions (at 08·00): 3, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus) 14; 4, Jimroda II (N Vaughan, GB) 89; 5, Cornwall (R Davie, GB) 259; 6, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB) 913; 7, Shuten-Dohji II (M Saito, Japan) 1,306; 8, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB) 2,586.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket

FA Carling Premiership
Aston Villa v Leeds
Blackburn v West Ham
Ipswich v Leicester
Liverpool v Norwich
Newcastle v Manchester City
*Nottingham Forest v Crystal Palace
Sheff Wednesday v Southampton
*Tottenham v Arsenal (Sky, 7.45)
Wimbledon v Everton

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Bolton v Reading
Bristol City v Watford
Derby v West Bromwich
Grimsby v Notts County
Luton v Charlton (7.45)
Middlesbrough v Barnsley
Portsmouth v Burnley
Southend v Tranmere
Swindon v Sunderland
Wolverhampton v Sheff Utd

Second division
Blackpool v Peterborough
Bournemouth v Swansea
Bradford v Birmingham
Brighton v Stockport
Cambridge Utd v Hull
Cardiff v Brentford
Chester v Wycombe
Huddersfield v Shrewsbury
Leyton Orient v Bristol Rovers
Oxford Utd v York
Plymouth v Crewe
Wrexham v Rotherham

Third division
Barnet v Exeter
Carlisle v Chesterfield
Doncaster v Gillingham
Fulham v Mansfield
Hereford v Hartlepool (11.0)
Lincoln v Colchester
Northampton v Bury
Rochdale v Darlington
Scarborough v Scunthorpe
Torquay v Preston
Wigan v Walsall (12.0)

Vauxhall Conference
Bath v Merthyr
Bromsgrove v Kidderminster
Dagenham and Red v Woking
Dover v Welling
Farnborough v Yeovil
Halifax v Gateshead
Northwich v Altrincham
Stafford v Telford
Stalybridge v Macclesfield
Stevenage v Kettering

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
Dundee Utd v Aberdeen
Falkirk v Partick
Hearts v Hibernian
Kilmarnock v Motherwell

First division
Dunfermline v Raith
Hamilton v Airdrie
St Johnstone v Dundee
St Mirren v Clydebank
Stranraer v Ayr

Second division
Clyde v Stirling
Dumbarton v Greenock Morton
East Fife v Brechin
Stenhousemuir v Meadowbank

Third division
Alloa v East Stirling
Arbroath v Forfar
Montrose v Cowdenbeath
Queen's Park v Albion
Ross County v Caley This.

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Gainsborough, Buxton v Matlock, Droylsden v Hyde, Emley v Accrington Stanley, Frickley v [illegible], Horwich v Marine, Knowsley v Colwyn Bay, Morecambe v Chorley, [illegible] v Bishop Auckland, Whitley Bay v Barrow, [illegible] v Witton. First division: [illegible] v Curzon Ashton, [illegible] v [illegible], Congleton v Eastwood [illegible], [illegible] Town v Farsley Celtic, [illegible] v [illegible], [illegible] Harwood v Netherfield, Harrogate Town v Alfreton, Mossley v Lancaster, [illegible] v Fleetwood, Warrington v [illegible], Workington v Bishop Stortford

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford v Kingstonian, Dulwich v Purfleet, [illegible] v Enfield, Hendon v Harrow, Marlow v Molesey, Slough v Hitchin, St Albans v Aylesbury, Sutton United v Hayes, Walton and Hersham v Bromley, Yeading v Walthamstow. First division: Abingdon Town v [illegible], Aldershot Town v Worthing, Billericay v [illegible], Bognor Regis v Uxbridge, Boreham Wood v Basingstoke, [illegible] v Wivenhoe, Heybridge Swifts v Newbury, Leyton v Staines, Maidenhead v Tooting and Mitcham, Wembley v Barking. [illegible] v Barking. Second division: [illegible] v Hampton, Egham v Chalfont St Peter, Hemel Hempstead v Tilbury, Hungerford v Edgware, [illegible] v Bracknell, Malden Vale v Thame, Canvey Island v Witham, Saffron Walden v Croydon. Third division: Sealford Town v Hertford, Camberley v Horsham, [illegible], Cove, Collier Row v Clapton, Epsom and Ewell v Harefield, Harlow v East Thurrock, Kingsbury v Flackwell Heath, [illegible] v Feltham and Hounslow, [illegible] v Hornchurch, Southall v Tring

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Solihull, Cheltenham v [illegible], Crawley v Gravesend and Northfleet (11.30), Dorchester v Gloucester, Gresley v Burton, Halesowen v VS Rugby, Hednesford v Worcester, Ilkeston v Corby, Trowbridge and Dartford v Chelmsford, [illegible] v Hastings, Sudbury v Cambridge [illegible]. Southern division: Ashford v Fisher 93, [illegible] v Poole, Braintree v Baldock, [illegible] v Witney, Erith and Belvedere v Bury Town, Fareham v Waterlooville, Margate v Tonbridge AFC, Newport IOW v Weymouth, Weston-Super-Mare v Salisbury, [illegible]. Midland division: Bedworth v Leicester United, Bridgnorth v Bilston, [illegible] Town v RC Warwick, Evesham v Nuneaton, Hinckley Town v Armitage, [illegible] v Grantham, King's Lynn v Bromsgrove, Moor Green v Redditch, Newport AFC v Corby Town, Stourbridge v Forest Green, Tamworth v Sutton Coldfield

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Ton Pentre, Bangor City v Newtown, Barry v Ebbw Vale, Caernarfon v Maesteg Park, Connah's Quay v Mold, Flint Town v Porthmadog, Inter Cardiff v Cwmbran, [illegible] v Aberystwyth, Llansantffraid v Holywell, Rhyl v Conwy

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Ash, Chipstead v Bedfont, Farnham v DCA Basingstoke, Horley v Godalming and Guildford, [illegible] v Cranleigh, Netherne v Cobham, Sandhurst v Eton Wick, Viking Sports v Reppard, Westfield v Hanley, [illegible]

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey Town v Hoddesdon, Buckingham Ath v Shillington, Dunstable GB v Harfield, Langford v Letchworth GC, Potters Bar v Wingate and Finchley

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Basildon v Romford, Maldon v Gt Wakering

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Taunton, Bridport v Tiverton, Bristol Manor Farm v Calne, Chippenham v Westbury, Elmore v Torrington; Odd Down v Frome, Paulton v Mangotsfield, Saltash v Crediton

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury v Tuffley, Banbury v Bicester, Brackley v North Leigh, Carterton v Cinderford, Cirencester v Shortwood, Highworth v Swindon Supermarine, Fintbury v Moreton, Pegasus Juniors v Fairford

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch Villa v Upton Ansells v Northfield, Chelmsley v Meir KA, Handrahan Timbers v Blowich, Highgate v Studley BKL, Knowle v Kings Heath, Dilon Royale v Sherwood Celtic, Shirley v Wellesbourne, West Midland Fire Service v Coleshill

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Barwell v Shepshed D, Boldmere St M v West Mid Police, Boldhall Swifts v Hinckley Athletic, Chasetown v Rocester, Halesowen Har v Sandwell Boro, Oldbury v Brierley Hill, Paget v Willenhall, Pershore v Stapenhill, Rushall O v Stratford, Shifnal v Knypersley Vic

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Durham v West Auckland, Eppleton CW v Murton, Ferryhill v Tow Law, Hebburn v Bedlington Terriers, Prudhoe v Dunston FB, Seaham Red Star v Guisborough, Whitby v Shildon

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers v Skelmersdale

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena v Ballyclare, Bangor v Glentoran, Crusaders v Carrick, Distillery v Cliftonville, Glenavon v Ards, Larne v Coleraine, Linfield v Newry, Omagh v Portadown.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division. Athlone v St Patrick's Ath (7.0)

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: East Cowes Vics v Cowes Sports

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Beckenham v Dareth Heathside, Chatham v Canterbury, Folkestone Invicta v Deal, Sheppey v Dartford, Slade Green v Furness, Thamesmead v Greenwich, Whitstable v Herne Bay

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Wick, Crowborough v Ringmer, Hailsham v Stamco, Langney Sports v Eastbourne Town, Littlehampton v Portfield, Oakwood v Whitehawk; Peacehaven/Telscombe v Newhaven, Shoreham v Pagham, Southwick v Burgess Hill; Three Bridges v East Grinstead

FA VASE. Third round replays. Liskeard v Tunbridge Wells, Elmore v Wick

RUGBY UNION

Representative match
Surrey v Italian XV
(at London Irish, 3.0)

Heineken League
First division
Bridgend v Newbridge (2.30)
Newport v Abertillery (2.30)

Club matches
Barkers Butts v Leamington (2.30)
Havant v Basingstoke (2.30)
Heriot's FP v Hawick (2.0)
Kelso v Jed-Forest (2.0)
Lydney v Monmouth (3.0)
Macclesfield v Broughton Park (2.30)
Maesteg v Pontypool (2.30)
Melrose v Glasgow HK (2.0)
Musselburgh v Boroughmuir (2.0)
North Walsham v Holt (2.15)
Novocastrians v Newcastle Gos (2.15)
Richmond v London Scottish (3.0)
Rosslyn Park v Harlequins (3.0)
Saracens v Wasps (2.15)
Selkirk v Gala (2.0)
Sutton and Epsom v Askeans (2.15)
West Hartlepool v Stockton (3.0)
Maesteg v Pontypool (2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Second round
Blackpool v Thornhill (3.0)

Stones Bitter Championship
Second division
Batley v Bramley (3.15)
Swinton v Leigh (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: World Invitation Club Basketball Tournament (National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace)
DARTS: WDC world championships (Circus Tavern, Purfleet)
TABLE TENNIS: England v China (Mansfield)



Bernie Parmalee, left, of Miami, is tackled by George Jamison, of Kansas City, *in their AFC wild-card play-off game. Photograph: Rhona Wise*

Marino outlasts Montana

By Robert Kirley

THE opening day of the *National Football League* play-offs sparkled on Saturday when Dan Marino, of the *Miami Dolphins*, and Joe Montana, of the Kansas City Chiefs, staged an impressive duel. The venerable quarterbacks swapped scoring drives throughout the first half, but Montana's team ran out of steam after the interval, giving the Dolphins a 27-17 American Football Conference (AFC) wild-card victory.

Marino threw two touchdown passes and the Dolphins recovered two turnovers in the fourth quarter to stave off the Chiefs. Next weekend *the Dolphins will* meet the San Diego Chargers, the AFC West champions, as *Miami continue their attempt* to become the first team to *play in a Super Bowl at home*. Super Bowl XXIX will be played at the Joe Robbie Stadium on January 29.

Miami and Kansas City were tied 17-17 at the interval after an exciting two quarters in which only one series failed to produce a scoring play. Marino completed 22 of 30 passes for 257 yards, and Montana, playing in what might have been the final game of his career, completed 26 of 37 passes for 314 yards and two touchdowns.

With Kansas City threatening to draw within striking distance early in the fourth quarter, the *Miami* cornerback, J. B. Brown, intercepted a Montana pass on the *goalline and returned it to the* Dolphins' 24-yard line. Then, after Kansas City forced a punt, the Chiefs again drove deep into Miami territory only *to lose* the ball. Marcus Allen broke free on a nine-yard gain but the ball was ripped from his grasp while he was being tackled by Michael Stewart.

In the National Football Conference wild-card game played on Saturday, the Green Bay Packers beat the Detroit Lions 16-13. Chris Jacke kicked three field goals and the Green Bay defence *held* Barry Sanders, of Detroit, to minus-one yard rushing in 13 carries, the lowest total of *his* career. Sanders, who led the league with 1,883 yards rushing this season, *found the going slippery.*

RACING

NEWBURY

Going: heavy

12.35 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Clifton Beat (R Dunwoody, 8-13 fav); 2, Alna Sox 8 (12-1); 3, Sight'n Sound (11-2). 10 ran. 7l, 2l. P Hobbs. Tote: £1 70; £1 20, £1 90, £1.80. DF £11.10. Trio: £21 40. CSF: £10 05.

1.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Kingsfold Pet (D Skyrme, 11-8 fav); 2, Blast Freeze (3-1); 3, Saint Ciel (9-2). 8 ran. 3l, 3½l. M Haynes. Tote: £2.20; £1 40, £1.80. DF: £3.30. CSF: £5 57.

1.40 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Berude Not To (J Osborne, 8-11 fav), 2, Garrylough (11-2), 3, Court Master (20-1). 8 ran. NR: Roberty Lea. 5l, 5l. O Sherwood. Tote £1.80; £1 20, £1.20, £2.90. DF. £3.60. Trio: £20.50. CSF: £5.72

2.15 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, *Lo Stregone* (J Osborne, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Over The Deel (11-1), 3, Romany King (8-1). *Dont Tell The Wife* 4-1 jt-fav (ur). 8 ran. 20l, 13l. T Tate. Tote. £4.40; £1.20, £3.10, £1.40. DF: £24 80. CSF: £39.76. Tricast: £299.86.

2.45 (3m 6f ch) 1, Master Oats (N Williamson, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Earth Summit (4-1), 3, Party Politics (6-1). Lord Relic 5-2 jt-fav (pu). 8 ran. NR: Riverside Boy. 20l, 25l. K Bailey. Tote: £3.40; £1 80, £1.80, £1.70. DF: £12.30. Trio: £19 80. CSF: £13 15. Tricast: £50.84.

3.15 (2m 4f ch) 1, Well Briefed (B Powell, 4-1), 2, Easy Buck (4-6 fav); 3, Repeat The Dose (9-2). 4 ran. 20l, dist. R Buckler. Tote: £6.10. DF: £2 80. CSF: £7.07.

3.40 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Idiot's Lady (W Marston, 10-1); 2, Billygoat Gruff (4-7 fav); 3, Pleasure Shared (5-1). 7 ran. 20l, 20l. Mrs J Pitman. Tote: £10 00; £2.60, £1.30. DF: £5 70. CSF: £16.45.

Jackpot: £467.80.
Placepot: £66.50.
Quadpot: £74.10.

NOTTINGHAM

Going: good to soft (chase course); good soft, soft patches (hurdles)

12.30 (2m hdle) 1, Nordic Valley (J Lower, 11-8 fav), 2, Full Shilling (9-2). 4 ran. 25l. M Pipe. Tote: £3.10. DF. £5.60. CSF: £6.74. *Only two finished. No bid.*

1.05 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Countess Veruschka (F Leahy, 4-1), 2, Beauchamp Grace (5-2 fav); 3, Alamo Scout (33-1). 9 *ran. 2½l, 12l. K Bailey. Tote* £4 10; £1 10, £1 30, £10 90. DF. £6 40. Trio £168.40. CSF: £13.00. Tricast: £238.27

1.35 (2m hdle) 1, Nordic Crown (J Lower, 11-10 fav), 2, *Minster's Madam* (10-1); 3, Burntwood Melody (6-1). 7 ran. NR: Dame Prospect, Golden Memories. 13l, 15l. M Pipe. Tote £1.90; £1.80, £2 60. DF £7 90. CSF £12.53

2.10 (3m 4f hdle) 1, Tony Murphys Lady (J Supple, 25-1); 2, Lion Of Vienna (8-1). 3, Patroclus (6-1). Corston Rambo 100-30 fav (pulled up). 13 ran. NR: Baybeejay. 10l, 9l. *John R Upson. Tote:* £38.50; £8 40, £3 50, £2 00. DF: £169.20. Trio: £307 10. Tricast: £1,241 66

2.40 (2m ch) 1, Butler's Twitch (M *Richards*, 8-13 fav). 2, Cheeka (14-1); 3, Misty Grey (40-1). 4 ran. 11l, 4l. O Sherwood. Tote: £1 50. DF: £5 30. CSF: £6 52

3.10 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Strath Royal (M Brennan, 8-13 fav). 2, Andermatt (13-8), 3, Wise Customer (12-1). 3 ran. 6l, 5l. O Brennan. Tote: £1 60. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.85.

3.40 (2m hdle) 1, Nipper Reed (D Gallagher, 10-11 fav). 2, Kintavi (100-30); 3, Barryben (14-1). 8 ran. 25l, 1½l. R Simpson. Tote: £1.60. £1 10, £1.90. DF: £2.20. CSF: £4.31.

Placepot: £103.20.
Quadpot: £29.60 (pool of £20.00 carried forward to Cheltenham today).

CATTERICK

1.00 1, Alybak (2-9 fav); 2, Master's Crown (10-1). 3 ran.

1.30 1, Another Venture (12-1); 2, Spring Call (6-1). 3, Sabbaq (6-1). Mr Royal 10-11 fav. 16 ran. NR: Knucklebuster.

2.00 1, Highly Decorated (7-1); 2, Willubelong (6-1). 3, Cardenden (5-1). Judicial Field 9-4 fav (f). 8 ran.

2.30 1, Sudden Spin (7-4 fav); 2, Friendly Knight (20-1), 3, Will Soon (5-1). 10 ran.

3.00 1, Pims Gunner (4-5 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Concert Paper (15-2); 3, Extra Grand (6-1). 6 ran. NR: Celtic Song, *Kildowney Hill*

3.30 1, Farmer's Cross (11-1), 2, Moneru (14-1), 3, Troodos (8-1). D'Arblay Street, Ridwan 11-4 jt-fav. 11 ran.

LINGFIELD PARK

11.55 1, Abbey House (9-1); 2, Avant Huit (8-11 fav), 3, Merrie Le Bow (5-1). 6 ran.

12.25 1, Daaniera (20-1); 2, Nordico Princess (3-1 fav), 3, Press The Bell (6-1). 9 ran

12.55 1, Metal Storm (4-1), 2, Spencer's Revenge (2-1 fav); 3, Medland (14-1). 11 ran.

1.25 1, Battleship Bruce (7-4 fav; Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Master Millfield (100-30), 3, Star Fighter (12-1). 10 ran. NR: Bettergeton, Nomadic Dancer.

1.55 1, Beautete (12-1), 2, Marco Magnifico (12-1), 3, *Woltashambles (9-4 fav).* 12 ran. NR: Head Turner

2.25 1, Masnun (2-1); 2, Mr Nevermind (13-8 fav), 3, Quick Million (33-1). 10 ran.

WOLVERHAMPTON

6.00 1, Four Of Spades (3-1); 2, Little Ibnr (6-4 fav); 3, Dawalib (7-2). 6 ran.

6.30 1, Northern Celadon (6-1); 2, Sharp Gazelle (7-1), 3, Zahran (15-2). Battle Colours 11-4 fav. 12 ran. Alpine Johnny (4-1) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies, deduct 20p in pound

7.00 1, Bentico (Evens fav); 2, Certain Way (13-2); 3, Hawwam (5-2). 7 ran.

7.30 1, Shy Paddy (11-4), 2, Keys Seminar (7-1). 3, Sandra Dee (7-4 fav). 5 ran.

8.00 1, David James' Girl (7-4 fav); 2, Dowdency (16-1); 3, Norman Prince (5-2). 8 ran

8.30 1, Scalp 'Em (7-1), 2, Broom Isle (2-1 jt-fav). 3, Premier Dance (4-1). Noufari 2-1 jt-fav. 6 ran

RUGBY UNION

Heineken League

First division

Llanelli 18 *Treorchy* 7

Llanelli: Tries: R Evans, Lamerton, McPherson. Dropped goal: Strange. Treorchy: Try: Orrell. Con: Hames.

Neath 21 *Cardiff* 3

Neath: Tries: R Jones, Thomas. Con: Thomas. Pens: Thomas 3. Cardiff: Pen: Davies.

Pontypridd 54 Dunvant 3

Pontypridd: Tries: Manley 3, Jenkins 2, Alvis, G Jones, J Lewis, C Thomas. Cons: Jenkins 3. Pen: Jenkins. Dunvant: Pen: Booth.

Swansea 31 Pontypool 10

Swansea: Tries: Harris 2, Stuart Davies, Simon Davies, Reynolds. Pens: A Williams 2. Pontypool: Tries: M Taylor, Williams.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	14	11	0	3	402	166	22
Pontypridd	13	11	0	2	347	147	22
Neath	14	8	2	4	228	225	18
Swansea	13	8	0	5	287	231	16
Bridgend	13	7	1	5	297	272	15
Llanelli	13	7	0	6	255	231	12
Dunvant	13	5	1	7	187	256	11
Treorchy	13	5	0	8	243	203	10
Newbridge	13	5	0	8	157	245	10
Abertillery	13	4	0	9	222	369	8
Pontypool	14	3	0	11	199	378	6
Newport	12	3	0	9	182	263	6

Second division

Abercynon 20 Narberth 0

Abercynon: Tries: J Pardoe, G Thomas. Cons: Savage 2. Pens: Savage 2.

Bonymaen 30 Maesteg 20

Bonymaen: Tries: Clement, Mainey, Price, Thomas. Cons: Rees 2. Pens: Rees 2. Maesteg: Tries: S Lewis, G Lewis, Morgans. Con: Brown. Pen: Brown.

Ebbw Vale 27 *Penarth* 13

Ebbw Vale: Tries: Harris, Mogford, Price, C Thomas, Worgan. Con: C Thomas. Penarth: Try: S Crothers. Con: Howells. Pens: Howells 2.

Postponed: Aberavon v South Wales Police.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aberavon	13	11	0	2	319	126	22
Abercynon	13	9	0	4	239	170	18
Ebbw Vale	13	8	1	4	231	191	17
Bonymaen	12	8	1	3	205	150	17
S Wales Pol	12	7	1	4	246	197	15
Tenby Utd	12	7	0	5	185	200	14
Cross Keys	12	6	0	6	179	202	12
Narberth	14	3	2	9	186	281	8
Llandovery	11	4	0	7	143	213	8
Maesteg	12	3	1	8	190	225	7
Llanharan	11	3	0	8	179	194	6
Penarth	13	2	0	11	156	309	4

Club matches

Barking	13	Thurrock	15
Bedford	51	L Welsh	5
Biggar	17	*Edinburgh Ac*	15
Bradford	0	Harrogate	29
Clifton	10	Bristol	16
Coventry	24	Rugby	19
Forrester FP	0	Corstorphine	65
Fylde	43	Blackburn	6
Glasgow Ac	23	Hillhead-J'hill	0
Gloucester	35	Moseley	6
Grangemouth	5	Stirling Co	7
H Wycombe	15	Newbury	29
Huddersfield	0	Rotherham	18
Kendal	43	Kirkby Lonsdale	0
Leeds	8	Otley	13
Melrose	70	Langholm	0
Morley	13	Waterloo	11
Newcastle G	33	Alnwick	0
Nuneaton	5	Lydney	16
Preston G	37	Vale of Lune	15
Reading	15	Henley	16
Sale	80	West Park	17
Sheffield	11	Hull	18
Stoke	14	Whitchurch	3
Wakefield	29	Liverpool St H	15
Walsall	64	Stafford	10
W of Scotland	69	Ardrossan Ac	13
Wharfedale	35	York	5
Glasgow HK	8	Stewarts Mel	62
Ayr	20	Wigtownshire	14
Currie	16	Dundee HSFP	42

Cancelled: Broughton Park v Widnes; Haddington v Preston Lodge; Jed-Forest v Tynedale; London Irish v Blackheath; Watsonians v Edinburgh Wanderers.

Scottish Under-21 trial

Blues 22 Reds 45

Blues: Tries: Dalgleish 2, Hogg, Morley. Con: Morrison. Reds: Tries: Jennings 2, McRobert 2, Cunningham, Easson, Featherstone. Cons: Easson 5.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Scottish Schools 17 Australia Schools 18; Yorkshire Under-18 0 Lancashire Under-18 38.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

Bradford 24 Salford 18

Bradford: Tries: McDermott 2, Newlove, Round, Summers. Goals: Fox 2. Salford: Tries: Blease 2, Webster. Goals: Blakeley 3. Att: 5,128.

Leeds 42 Halifax 14

Leeds: Tries: Cummins 3, Fallon, Hanley, Schofield, Tait. Goals: Holroyd 7. Halifax: Tries: Divorty, Harrison. Goals: Schuster 3. Att: 19,218.

Oldham 20 Workington 10

Oldham: Tries: Ranson 3, Kuld. Goals: Topping 2. Workington: Tries: Fawcett 2. *Goals: Marwood. Att: 3,880.*

Widnes 10 St Helens 20

Widnes: Tries: Hadley, Koloto. Goal: *Hadley. St Helens: Tries: Fogerty, Hunte,* Martyn. Goals: Goulding 4. Att: 7,384

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wigan	15	14	0	1	568	220	28
Leeds	16	13	1	2	463	295	27
Bradford	17	12	1	4	446	272	25
Halifax	16	11	1	4	445	251	23
St Helens	16	11	1	4	438	317	23
Castleford	15	10	2	3	430	260	22
Warrington	16	10	1	5	391	256	21
Oldham	16	7	1	8	316	409	15
Salford	16	5	1	10	344	372	11
Sheffield	15	5	0	10	283	376	10
Doncaster	15	4	1	10	228	399	9
Widnes	16	4	1	11	194	396	9
Wakefield	15	4	0	11	197	432	8
Featherstone	15	3	1	11	278	353	7
Workington	16	3	1	12	215	463	7
Hull	15	2	1	12	243	408	5

Does not include: Wigan v Warrington

Postponed: Doncaster v Hull, Featherstone v Sheffield; Wakefield v Castleford.

Second division

Barrow 12 Highfield 14

Barrow: Tries: Shaw, Smith. Goals: Carter, Shaw. Highfield: Tries: Del Farro, Hudson. Goals: Rippon 3. Att: 676.

Huddersfield 10 Keighley 0

Huddersfield: Tries: Hanger, Thomas. Goals: P Hellewell. Keighley: Tries: Irving, Ramshaw. Goals: Irving 3. Drop *Goals: Ramshaw. Att: 5,356.*

Hunslet 16 Dewsbury 18

Hunslet: Tries: Boothroyd, Brook, Pryce. Goals: Close, Pell. Dewsbury: Tries: D Longo, Rombo. Goals: Agar 5. Att: 1,594.

Whitehaven 36 Carlisle 4

Whitehaven: Tries: Gribbin 2, Pechey 2, Quirke, Routledge, Seeds. Goals: Maguire 2, Seeds 2. Carlisle: Tries: Waddell. Att: 1,037.

Postponed: *Hull KR v Ryedale York (to be* played today, 2.00); Swinton v Leigh (to be played today, 3.00).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Keighley	15	13	1	1	495	177	27
Dewsbury	15	11	0	4	401	215	22
Batley	15	11	0	4	339	180	22
Hull KR	15	10	0	5	491	200	20
London	15	10	0	5	351	219	20
Huddersfield	16	9	0	7	386	276	18
Leigh	15	9	0	6	375	268	18
Rochdale	16	9	0	7	406	325	18
Whitehaven	14	9	0	5	324	288	18
Ryedale York	15	8	1	6	392	287	17
Hunslet	16	6	0	10	261	487	12
Swinton	15	5	0	10	274	436	10
Bramley	14	4	0	10	263	273	8
Carlisle	16	4	0	12	253	495	8
Barrow	15	1	0	14	183	458	2
Highfield	15	1	0	14	106	716	2

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Second round

Barrow Island	19	West Hull	12
Beverley	14	Normanton	16
Bisons	8	East Leeds	33
Blackbrook	0	Chorley	23
Eastmoor	8	Dudley Hill	16
Ellenborough	23	Egremont	10
Hensingham	8	Heworth	14
Lock Lane	20	Mayfield	14
Millom	36	Saddleworth	16
Moorends	12	Thatto Heath	10
Oulton	12	Kells	14
Shaw Cross	9	Moldgreen	4
Wigan St Judes	14	H Hempstead	13
Wigan St Pat's	42	Crown Malet	6
Woolston	14	Greetland AR	4

GUIDE TO THE REST OF THE WEEK

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Manchester Utd v Coventry (8.0); QPR v Chelsea (Sky, 3.0)
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First *division: Millwall v Oldham (7.45); *Port Vale v Stoke (7.45)*
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Runcorn v Southport (at Witton Albion, 7.45)
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE. Second division: Berwick v Queen Of South

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Haddington v Preston Lodge (2.0)

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: Embassy World Championships (Frimley Green)
RACING: Edinburgh (12.30), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.15)
TABLE TENNIS: England v China (Chester)

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE. Premier *division. Rangers v Celtic (Sky)*

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Barrow v Dewsbury (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Birmingham v Worthing (5.0)
DARTS. *Embassy World Championships* (Frimley Green)
RACING: Lingfield Park (12.45). Wolverhampton (AW, 1.30)
TABLE TENNIS: English Open (Thornaby)

THURSDAY

BASKETBALL. Budweiser League: Derby v Manchester (8.0), London v Leopards (8.0)
DARTS: Embassy World Championships (Frimley Green)
RACING: Nottingham (12.50), Sedgefield (1.10), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.0)
TABLE TENNIS: English Open (Thornaby)

FRIDAY

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Featherstone v Hull (Sky, 7.30)

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: Embassy World Championships (Frimley Green)
RACING: Towcester (12.50), Uttoxeter (1.10), Southwell (AW, 1.0)
TABLE TENNIS: English Open (Thornaby)

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA CUP: Third round: Aylesbury v Queens Park Rangers (at Loftus Road), *Barnsley v Aston Villa, *Birmingham City v Liverpool, Bristol City v Stoke City, Bury v Tranmere Rovers, Cambridge Utd v Burnley, Chelsea v Charlton Athletic, Coventry City v West Bromwich Albion, Everton v Derby County, *Gillingham v Sheffield Wednesday, Grimsby v Norwich City, Leicester City v Enfield, Luton Town v Bristol Rovers, *Mansfield v Wolverhampton Wanderers, Millwall v Arsenal, Nottingham Forest v Plymouth, Portsmouth v Bolton Wanderers, Reading v Oldham, *Scarborough v Watford, Southampton v Southend, *Sunderland v Carlisle, Swansea v Middlesbrough, Swindon v Marlow, Tottenham Hotspur v Altrincham, *Walsall v Leeds United, Wimbledon v Colchester, *Wrexham v Ipswich, *Wycombe v West Ham

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Second division: Bradford v Bournemouth, Cardiff v Blackpool, Chester v York, Huddersfield v Crewe, Hull v Shrewsbury, Leyton Orient v Rotherham. Third division: Hereford v Darlington, Rochdale v Torquay, Scunthorpe v Exeter, Wigan v Northampton

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Bath v Stafford, Gateshead v Bromsgrove, Halifax v Dover, Kettering v Stalybridge, Kidderminster v Farnborough, Merthyr v Stevenage, Southport v Macclesfield, Telford v Northwich, Welling v Runcorn, Yeovil v Dagenham and Red

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Aberdeen v Falkirk, Celtic v Dundee Utd, Hibernian v Kilmarnock, Partick v Rangers. First division: Airdrie v St Johnstone, Ayr v St Mirren, Clydebank v Dunfermline, Dundee v Stranraer, Raith v Hamilton

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Second round: Alloa v Ross County; Brechin v Stirling, Buckie Thistle v Berwick, Burntisland Shipyard v St Cuthbert W FC (2.15); Cove v Cowdenbeath, Forfar v Meadowbank, Gala Fairydean v East Fife, Keith v Huntly, Queen Of South v Clyde, Stenhousemuir v Arbroath, Whitehill Welfare v Montrose

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH. Scotland A v Italy XV (Perth)
COURAGE CLUBS LEAGUE: First division: Bristol v Bath, Gloucester v Wasps (Sky), Harlequins v Sale, Northampton v Leicester, Orrell v West Hartlepool
HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Aberavon v Treorchy, Cardiff v Swansea, Dunvant v Neath, Newbridge v Pontypool, Newport v Bridgend, Pontypridd v Llanelli

RUGBY LEAGUE

REGAL TROPHY: Quarter-final: Leeds v Castleford (BBC1, 3.0).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Mallusk International cross-country race (Belfast)
BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Hemel v Chester (7.30), Manchester v Sheffield (7.30), Sunderland v Birmingham (7.30); Thames Valley v Doncaster (8.0); Worthing v Leopards (8.0)
DARTS: Embassy World Championships (Frimley Green)
RACING: Haydock Park (BBC, 1.0), Sandown Park (C4, 12.50), Warwick (12.35); Lingfield Park (AW, 12.45), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.0)
TABLE TENNIS: English Open (Thornaby)

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: Third round: Crystal Palace v Lincoln (12.0), *Newcastle United v Blackburn Rovers (BBC1, 3.0), Notts County v Manchester City (3.0)
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Third division: Fulham v Chesterfield (12.30).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division. Motherwell v Hearts

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
REGAL TROPHY: Quarter-finals: Keighley v *Warrington (3.15).* Widnes v Bradford Northern, Wigan v St Helens
STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: FIRST DIVISION: Salford v Sheffield Eagles

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL. Budweiser League: Birmingham v Leopards (6.0), Chester v Manchester (6.0), Doncaster v Worthing (5.0), Leicester v Derby (6.0), Sheffield v London (6.15)
DARTS: Embassy World Championships (Frimley Green)
TABLE TENNIS: English Open (Thornaby)

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هكذا من الأصل

Learning on the front line

The Smallpeice programme is a revolution in the development of science education, says Susan Elkin



Dr Tracey Madden, a Smallpeice trainee, worked at a school for a full 40 weeks and was included in school life from the start

Tracey Madden teaches science and technology at Finham Park School, Coventry. This is her first teaching post. She completed her postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE) in July. Nothing out of the ordinary thus far.

What distinguishes her from most new teachers is, first, the exceptionally high level of her own qualifications and second, her unusual route into teaching.

Dr Madden, 30, has a first degree in physics and computing from Leicester Polytechnic (now De Montfort University). Her PhD in chemical physics at London University led to a two-year research fellowship in Warwick University's chemistry department. A year working as a student study assistant at Coventry Polytechnic (now University), during which she was assigned to a partially-sighted student, convinced her that work with people was for her.

Like 80 other well-qualified graduates in 1993-94, Dr Madden's teacher training was entirely based in schools (in the West Midlands) through the Smallpeice programme, an initiative of City Technology Colleges (CTC) Trust. The programme now has six centres spread across Britain, with growing numbers of courses and student teachers.

Dr Cosby Smallpeice was an engineer and philanthropist who died in 1977. He established the trust to develop and enhance science education. With the help of the CTC Trust and the Education Department, money is being used to train science and technology teachers.

At the heart of each centre is a CTC which works in close collaboration with four or five other local secondary schools. The East Midlands Consortium, for example, is based at Brooke Weston CTC in Corby, Northamptonshire, a shining new glass and brick school. Fifteen Smallpeice students, six women and nine men, qualified here last month.

The Smallpeice programme is a far cry from the traditional eight or nine-month PGCE or three or four years of a BEd degree. Extensive college-based lectures, tutorials and endless theorising characterise these, and on many courses, teaching practices are mere hit-and-run bursts in school: have a brief stab at teaching and then scamper back to the comfortable cocoon of a higher education existence. The day-to-day practical realities of teaching remain remote.

By contrast, the sheer high quality and purposeful relevance of everything about the Smallpeice programme is remarkable. Trainees work in schools for a full 40 weeks, involved in school life from the very outset. Scott Marshall, 26, is a Cardiff graduate in mining engineering with a background in mining and geotechnics, now training at Corby. "We're treated like colleagues, and most of the pupils don't realise we're only trainees," he says.

Continuous teaching practice takes place on one or two days a week. Alongside that, there is formal training in areas such as special educational needs, history of education, child development, health and safety and so on. Brooke Weston has a very businesslike lecture theatre whose use is shared between Smallpeice students and pupils. There is also a governors' "boardroom" which doubles up as a seminar resource for Smallpeice students. Like the other five consortia, East Midlands either buys in the appropriate expertise to teach these components or uses senior staff from within the consortium.

> 'Most of the pupils do not realise that we are only teacher trainees'

Every student's work includes a two-week placement in industry and the writing of six stiff 2,000-word assignments. "It's very hard work and quite stressful," Sofia Maniar, 25, a Birmingham graduate in computing, says. "But I'm glad I did it this way."

The backbone of the Smallpeice student's year is two extended teaching practices in different schools within the consortium. A number of East Midlands Consortium students did their final teaching practice at Leicester's Vale of Catmose College, Oakham.

Samantha Corbett, 22, turned down a PGCE place at Goldsmiths' College, London, because she wanted school-based training. Regrets? None. A social science graduate of Hatfield Polytechnic (now the University of Hertfordshire), she exudes confidence and is looking forward to taking up a post as food and textiles teacher at Redborne Upper School, at Ampthill, Bedfordshire, this week.

Alan Moore, 23, also presents the smart appearance required of Smallpeice students. Armed with a physics degree from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, he wanted on-the-job teacher training. He starts the new term at Jack Hunt School, Peterborough, where he is to teach construction and graphics.

Everyone evinces enthusiasm. Many Brooke Weston parents are pleased that their children have daily access to a group of highly knowledgeable "extra" people. Smallpeice students enhance the school. As Peter Simpson, vice-principal of Brooke Weston, and consortium manager of the Smallpeice programme, says: "I'd be delighted for my own children to be taught by any of our Smallpeice colleagues." He has two sons at the school, so he means it.

As schools become increasingly specialised, could there not be scope for similar programmes to train modern linguists, historians, geographers, mathematicians and English specialists? When I compare the systematic, practical training which Smallpeice students are enjoying with my own shoddy three-year "training" in the Sixties I am, frankly, envious.

● *To be offered a place on the Smallpeice Programme you must be under 45 and have a UK degree or its equivalent in a science or technology-related subject. Further details from CTC Trust, 9 Whitehall, London SW1A 2DD (071-839 9339).*

A helping hand for stressed teachers

Blueprint for classroom ills

Work-related stress is becoming a problem in schools. Increasing numbers of teachers and heads are suffering from stress-related illnesses, and schools are receiving unprecedented requests for early retirement from their staff.

These danger signs are, however, being recognised. Some education authorities, such as Dyfed in West Wales, have begun to tackle the problem. Last term, 30 heads and teachers in the county suffered stress-related illnesses. They included 19 class teachers, two deputies and nine heads. Most came from the small rural primary sector. They stated that the causes were curriculum overload, assessment, and having to deal with management issues such as school budgets.

Convinced that it has a duty to both support its staff and create a good working environment, Dyfed established a working party to investigate the problem. The ensuing report, *Stress Report for School Staff*, is a blueprint that the authority will implement this spring.

John Ellis, director of education, says: "It tackles the problem in two ways: crisis management for existing sufferers and prevention for the future." The former will provide a confidential helpline and counselling service. A team of six to ten counsellors will man the line and provide intensive counselling.

The counsellors will be members of the authority's educational psychology team, assisted by fully trained volunteer heads and teachers. They will help teachers to work through their problems, and the hope is that such intervention will enable teachers to weather the storm.

However, the long-term solution is prevention, and in a bid to reduce a build-up of stressful situations, the authority is seeking to make its activities "stress-proof". For example, stress management courses will be introduced as part of its in-service training provision. The authority's team of advisory teachers will visit schools more often, and will provide evening surgeries if required.

In addition, specific courses will be run to help teachers and heads in small rural schools to cope with changes such as the demands of local management, and organisational issues such as the effects of information technology.

At school level, the blueprint has identified numerous improvements which could be implemented to ease teachers' trauma. Firstly, communication within schools and, most particularly, within clusters of linked small schools, should be enhanced. Teachers and heads would receive advice and support from colleagues resulting, hopefully, in improved morale and motivation.



Staff will also be helped to improve their management of time to spread their workload more evenly, enabling them to complete their duties effectively and lessen the danger of stress.

In addition to implementing these recommendations, schools will be encouraged to compile their own stress audit. They will then be able to suggest their own solutions.

Mr Ellis is convinced that once the blueprint is implemented in Dyfed, it will be emulated elsewhere in England and Wales, because the need for such support has become so pressing. "Teachers are being constantly burdened by changes," Mr Ellis says, "and unless there is someone available to help them to cope, they can feel vulnerable, worried and stressed."

IOLA SMITH

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Informal enquiries may be made to Professor R John Mayer, Department of Biochemistry, tel: 0115 9709369, fax: 0115 9709969.

Further details and application forms, returnable not later than 31 January 1995, from the Director of Personnel, Personnel Office, The University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0115 9515775. Ref No MCM/002.

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ARTS
THE WEEK AHEAD



■ VISUAL ART

Mixing with the best: young Scottish artist Douglas Gordon gets his first London show at the Lisson Gallery

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ MUSIC

Sir Michael Tippett is 90 today: a Wigmore Hall tribute tonight, with LSO and BBC seasons to follow

RECITAL: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



■ THEATRE

Generations and cultures collide as Winsome Pinnock's play *Leave Taking* comes to the National

FIRST NIGHT: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

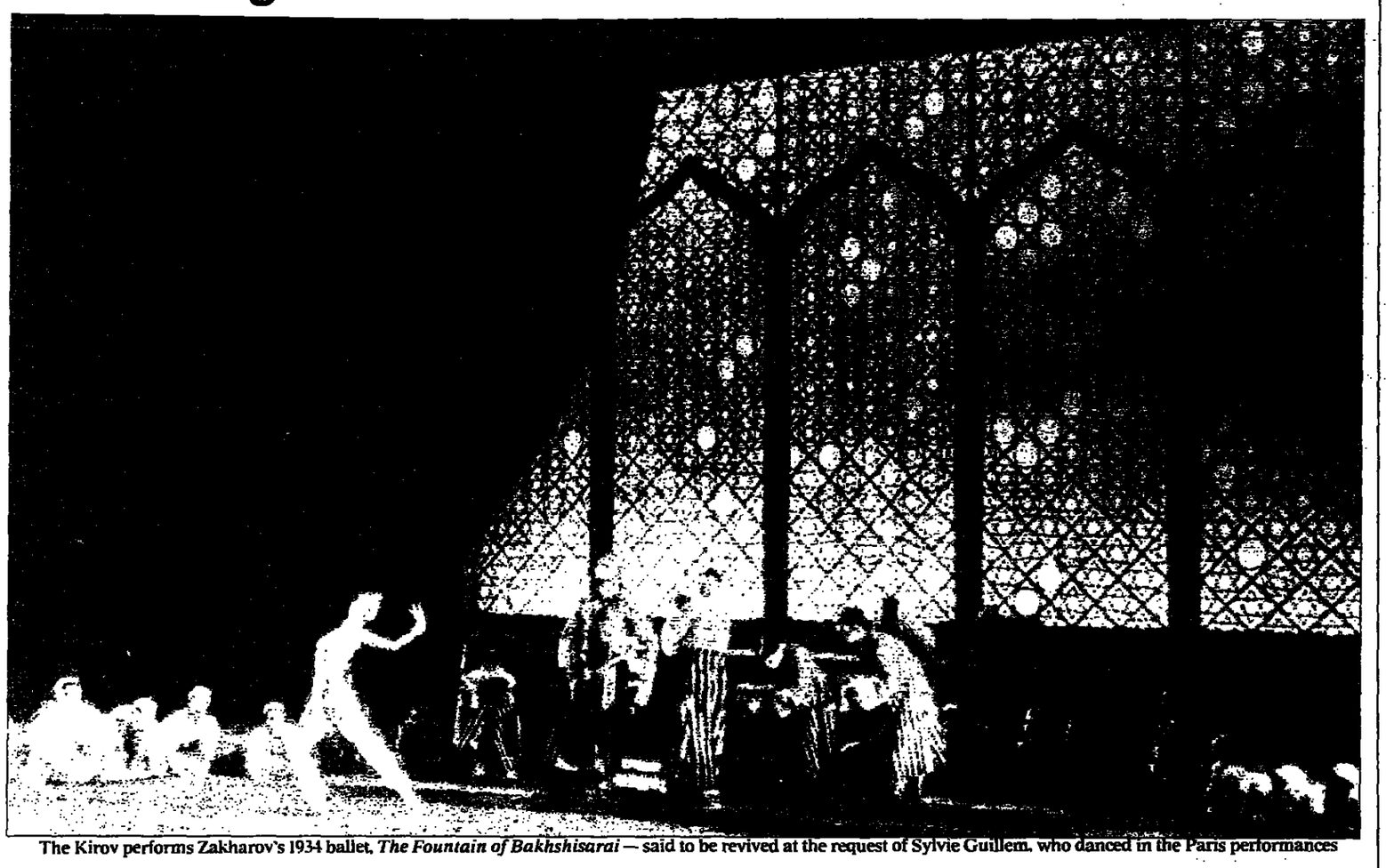


■ DANCE

Covent Garden star Darcey Bussell celebrates her new OBE with a return to *Swan Lake*, one of her best-loved roles

FIRST NIGHT: Thursday
REVIEW: Monday

Only a dribble of interest



The Kirov performs Zakharov's 1934 ballet, *The Fountain of Bakhshisarai* — said to be revived at the request of Sylvie Guillem, who danced in the Paris performances

DANCE: In Paris, **Nadine Meisner** watches the Kirov Ballet struggle to breathe fresh life into a creaky old Soviet warhorse

UNLESS you have travelled to Russia (or the few other countries performing it), or saw it during the Bolshoi's London visit way back in 1956, *The Fountain of Bakhshisarai* is one of those legendary names — a ballet heard of, but unseen. The Kirov was the first to mount it, in 1934, with the same choreography by Rotislav Zakharov and music by Boris Asafiev, a production that the company has recently revived.

Now it has introduced *The Fountain of Bakhshisarai* to Paris, in a shared season with the Kirov Opera at the Theâtre des Champs-Elysees. Rumour says that it was Sylvie Guillem, making a guest appearance with the Kirov, who asked for its inclusion so she could dance it. Even with her, though, the ballet is no more than a Soviet curiosity. The Kirov's policy of reinstating older ballets deserves praise, but this time it has landed a dud.

Zakharov's choreography is banal; Asafiev's commissioned score has instant forgettability, each insipid note evaporating the moment it hits the air. But Vera Khodasevich's designs are colourfully handsome, even if the burning house in Act I is a feeble affair of crimson lighting and fluttering red ribbons.

The titular fountain symbolises Khan Girei's tears, a memorial he has erected to Maria, a Polish princess. Girei, who has a bald head and flashing Mongol eyes like Yul Brynner in *The King and I*, abducted Maria, thereby arousing the jealousy of his lover Zarema who kills her. In itself the tale, based on Pushkin, has exotic drama and poignancy, and some veterans who can recollect the Bolshoi's London performances claim they had a wholeheartedness that gave stirring convictions to this non-masterpiece. As presented by the Kirov, though, the acting seemed wan, the dancing underpowered.

Vladimir Ponomariov's Girei managed to be both a ham and a non-entity. Yulia Makhalina has physical talent and long lines that at first suggest a Russian Guillem; but as Maria she threw all that away with an offputting manner of narcissistic decorativeness. The real Guillem followed her usual caprice of redesigning her allocated costumes; that apart, however, she offered a tremendous performance, the only one of the evening, plunging herself wholly into the part of Zarema and investing each movement with genuine belief.

Another of the ballet's many problems is Zakharov's crude staging. The lyre that Maria plays in her prison is the final saccharine touch to a cloyingly goody-goody character; when Girei recoils in dated silent-movie exaggeration at the sudden sight of Maria's beauty, it is hard not to giggle. We have moved on: a thought equally prompted by the Kirov's *Nutcracker*, also shown in the season. Vasily Vainorien, when he created his version the same year Zakharov created *Bakhshisarai*, may have shaped the ramshackle scenario into more consistency, but nowadays the choreography seems thin, the stage effects feeble, the battle scene skimpy. This was the *Nutcracker* Nureyev knew from his Kirov days; and he built on it for his own productions. Seeing it, you realise just how much he improved things.

What Nureyev preserved unchanged, though, was Vainonen's delicious interpretation of the Kingdom of Sweets' Mirlitons music as an 18th-century pastorale. The Kingdom of Sweets (which the Kirov has brought here in a mixed bill) is the production's most satisfying section, enhanced in Paris by Altynai Asylmuratova dancing the dual role of Masha (or Clara as we call her) and the Sugar Plum Fairy for the first time since she was a student. She swapped her enchanting girlish freshness as Masha for the ballerina poise and elegance of a Sugar Plum Fairy who in Vainonen's conception is truly the epicentre, supported not by one but five cavaliers.

Andrei Yakovlev has long legs which, as the Nutcracker Prince, he struggled to keep under control. Disappointingly, both the boys and girls were played by adult women instead of children, which looked mightily unconvincing. The dancing overall was only average: an adjective I never thought I would use about the Kirov. I hope it was because half the company was busy performing in Japan.

OPERA REVIEWS

Detour for an amazing lady

Tosca
Grand, Leeds

IN the operatic world there are few pearls of greater price than a really good staff producer, someone willing and able to restage the work of others faithfully, discreetly and efficiently. They do exist, and I could name names, but will desist lest it result in an unseemly outbreak of poaching among opera house managements. This darksome thought is occasioned by experience of Friday's revival of *Tosca* by Opera North. Six years ago they launched an elegant, witty yet essentially serious new production of Puccini's melodrama by Ian Judge; now they have just another *Tosca*.

Judge, still listed in the programme though Jonathan Alver is credited as "director", set the action at roughly the time of composition in the pre-First World War world of John Buchan, with Scarpia as much an impeccably groomed Foreign Office type as a representative of Scotland Yard, and Tosca a Tetrazzini-style prima donna. Details of costume and much of the action have been changed, and Buchan reduced to the level of William Le Queux. What was once elegant now seems merely tacky.

There is also a prominent new role (silent, perforce) for the Marchesa Attavanti, who carelessly gets herself arrested during the Te Deum and is being given a going-over by Scarpia's henchmen at second-act curtain-rise, and a version of Cavaradossi's execution not nearly as good as Puccini's.

This "goodness, aren't I clever" approach unfortunately spread over into the conducting. The young Italian Stefano Ranzani started promisingly enough, achieving fine balance, easy audibility of the words (Italian), and in general refreshingly free of routine. But his decidedly Mahlerian handling of Tosca's first-act exit music and lethargic speed for the Te Deum sounded several warning notes, all too soon answered: the second act got slower and slower, and when we got to "E lucevan le stelle" I thought it would have been prudent of the management to have issued us with sleeping bags.

Luckily there were a pair of fine performances. Josephine Barstow has now been singing professionally for 30 years, yet so youthful was her sound, so easy her traversal of phrases before which other prima donnas quail, that you might think she started last week — were it not for the maturity and assurance of her characterisation. She somehow *is* Tosca: impetuous, naive, tender and fatally trusting.

Patrick Power wisely declined to force his essentially lyric tenor, delivering a properly stentorian "Vittoria!" but otherwise singing with sweetness and musicianship. Matthew Best's beetle-like Scarpia, more Dr Crippen than Beria, looked like a development of his memorable Pizarro-as-neurotic at Edinburgh last year: it was a nice try, an interesting preliminary sketch, but given the character's music I am not convinced it will ever quite work.

This *Tosca* is not, sadly, what it was, but in Michelin terms it is at least worth a detour for the amazing Barstow.

RODNEY MILNES



Josephine Barstow: a brilliant performance

Singers' Cinders

La cenerentola
Queen Elizabeth Hall

CANNY folk, those Music Theatre London people. Each year just after Christmas they bring to eager turkey-bloated Londoners a low-budget production of a popular opera. They make it very much their own by arranging it for a tiny band, throwing out recitative and replacing it with dialogue, and giving it not so much in an English translation as with an entirely new text, riddled with corny rhymes and jokes and 1990s language. The odd thing is that these wholesale acts of heresy perpetrated by the translators and arrangers Nicholas Broadhurst (director) and Tony Britten (conductor) actually work.

In this case the victim was Rossini's *La cenerentola*. Simon Higlett's designs update the work to the present time. Giddily angled walls and a shattered proscenium frame the stage which, with its brightly coloured swimming pool and formal garden scenes, resembles a Hockney canvas. True to the traditions of pantomime, the ugly sisters, Clorinda and Tisbe, were played by men in drag, and stole the show. Simon Butteriss made a convincing, decidedly unugly Joan Collins lookalike as Clorinda: William Relton, as Tisbe, was more the convincing pantomime dame, gorging himself on cake and ale (or rather champagne) throughout.

Just to confuse us further, the production converted the role of the handsome prince Don Ramiro into a breeches part. Elena Ferrari, as ample of thigh as of stature she was not, certainly did not fit my idea of a handsome prince. Her chauffeur — I mean servant — Dandini, sung by Harry Burton, looked much more the part in his splendid Highland dress.

Some of the singing was less than adequate. Here, for example, Andrew C. Wadsworth as Alidoro showed himself master of the magician's minimal gesture — a faint click of finger or rise of eyebrow — but a tenor of little voice and less technique. That you cannot get away with in Rossini.

On the other side of the coin, Tim Hardy's Don Magnifico — a wide boy with an East End accent that curiously varied — has a large voice in need of taming. But Jan Hartley's Cinderella showed a shining control of timbre and coloratura, and she gauged her acting well: the pathos was not over-done. The others sang more or less serviceably, although the gender-swapping played havoc with Rossini's textures.

So did Tony Britten's rescoring of the music for an often feeble-sounding instrumental octet. Much of the glory of Rossini lies in his colours; to repaint them like this is akin to creating a paint-by-numbers cartoon from a Rembrandt. Nevertheless Britten's conducting maintained the impetus.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Touches of style

RECITAL

Bernard D'Ascoli
Wigmore Hall

WHAT better to cleanse the palate of Christmas superfluity than a programme of late Chopin? Refinement, expressive grace, and always that melancholy undertow: Chopin's music may be fastidiously calculated but it has a natural poetic spontaneity.

Bernard D'Ascoli's programme was taken from the last five years of Chopin's life: beginning with the Polonaise-Fantaisie in A flat and ending with the B minor Sonata, he took in nine Mazurkas, two Nocturnes, three Waltzes and the Barcarolle. By no means all, however, were executed with the subtle nuances of colour and rhythm that characterise the greatest Chopin playing. The Polonaise-Fantaisie in particular had a dull, earthbound quality.

The Barcarolle too, with its gently rocking rhythms, opened promisingly, but continued in more monolithic vein, with blocks of colour rather than variegated textures. Occasional flights of poetic fantasy in the Barcarolle were evident also in the two Op 62 Nocturnes. No 1 in B major and No 2 in E major, though opportunities for modulations of colour were not sufficiently taken.

The fast tempo of the Op 64 Waltzes seemed to have an expressive rather than purely virtuoso function: their lightness of touch had a ghostly quality. Sometimes too in the chosen Mazurkas there was a flash of inspiration or an effective switch of colour that made one wish for more consistent attention to such details.

The lyrical second subject of the B minor Sonata's first movement had a nicely floated singing line, and there was a good balance here between the music's introspective and rhetorical modes. The Scherzo and finale were both delivered with devastating accuracy and considerable sense of style, lacking only those elusive nuances of colour and rhythm to raise them to greatness.

BARRY MILLINGTON



Bernard D'Ascoli: missing some of Chopin's nuances

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Ariel writes a sequel

OVERTURES

WHATEVER happened to **Ariel Dorfman**? Since the West End production of his *Death and the Maiden* won the 1992 Olivier Award the 52-year-old playwright has not been much in evidence. But in 1995 he will, it seems, be everywhere. *First comes the film of Death and the Maiden* this spring, with **Ben Kingsley** and **Sigourney Weaver**. Then the Traverse Theatre in Edinburgh mounts two of his plays, *Reader* and *Widows*, in the summer and autumn.

But most intriguing of all will be Dorfman's new BBC screenplay, as yet untitled. Those who saw *Death and the Maiden* may find the story somewhat familiar: it is about a former British prisoner-of-war in Thailand who finds the man who tormented him. "It is a sort of continuation," says Dorfman about his new script, which is co-written with his 27-year-old son Rodrigo.

● THE pop groups **Eternal**, **Take That** and **Blur** are among the favourites who are expected to carry off trophies at this year's Brit Awards, to be presented in London on February 20 and broadcast on television the following evening. Nominations will be announced at the Hard Rock Cafe in London next Monday. Meanwhile the rock weekly *NME* will again pre-empt the record industry's night of mutual back-slapping by handing out its own Brat Awards on January 24.

The Danish dance star **Whigfield** has become only the third woman in chart history to sell more than a million copies of a single in Britain. Thanks to "Saturday Night", the super-annoying Euro-hit which ended Wet Wet Wet's 15-week run at No 1, she joins Jennifer Rush ("The Power Of Love") and Whitney Houston ("I Will Always Love You") in the super-league of sales achievers.

● ONE of Britain's brightest young composers, **Judith Weir**, has been appointed as Fairbairn Composer in Association to **Simon Rattle**'s City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Her appointment, running for three years from this month, follows the orchestra's successful four-year collaboration with **Mark Anthony Turnage**.

The first fruit of the new link will be the premiere in Birmingham on March 5 of Weir's intriguingly titled *Musicians Wrestle Everywhere*. "I feel we are all in for a real adventure," Rattle said, about Weir's appointment.

● VETERAN folkies **Fairport Convention**, now in their 28th year, mark the release of the new album *Jewel In The Crown* (named after their favourite take-away curry house) by embarking on a 30-date tour of England this month. First date will be at Leamington's Spa Centre on January 20, and the map will be covered comprehensively before the band reaches the Oxford Apollo on February 18.

● HOLLYWOOD's Golden Globe nominations, announced over the holidays and usually taken to be a fair indication of where the Oscars will be heading, have the familiar quotient of British names — although they are as interesting for their omissions as their inclusions. **Miranda Richardson** received two nominations, for best actress in *Tom and Viv* and for supporting actress in a television film, *Fatherland*. **Hugh Grant**, as expected, is up for *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, as is that film's screenwriter **Richard Curtis**. Overlooked: **Rosemary Harris**, also for *Tom and Viv*, who is thought to be a contender for the best supporting actress Oscar, and the entire cast of *The Madness of King George*, which was swept aside in a chauvinistic burst of enthusiasm for *Forrest Gump* and *Pulp Fiction*.

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■ FILM

Isabelle Huppert plays a former nun who tangles with a pornographer in Hal Hartley's new *Amateur*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ BOOKS

The evolution of Sir Isaiah Berlin's philosophy is discussed in John Gray's study of the great thinker

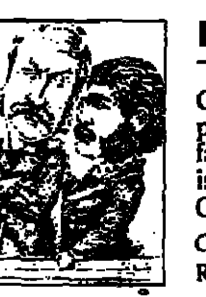
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday



■ POP

A night of pelvic thrusts at Wembley Arena: soul superstar R Kelly brings his explicit stage show to London

GIG: Friday
REVIEW: Monday



■ OPERA

Gilbert and Sullivan's peers-and-fairies fantasy, *Iolanthe*, is revived by Scottish Opera in Glasgow

OPENS: Saturday
REVIEW: Monday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

A blow for democracy?

JAZZ: Clive Davis looks back on a year in New York in which performers and critics refused to let the music do the talking

Never mind the concerts, the most compelling spectacle in New York last year involved the world's most famous trumpeter standing before an audience for two hours or more without even taking his horn out of its case. Wynton Marsalis's much-anticipated debate with the iconoclastic music historian James Lincoln Collier had all the atmosphere of a heavyweight grudge match, the crowd at Lincoln Center clearly hoping to see Collier, not the most politically correct of fellows, dragged away on a stretcher.

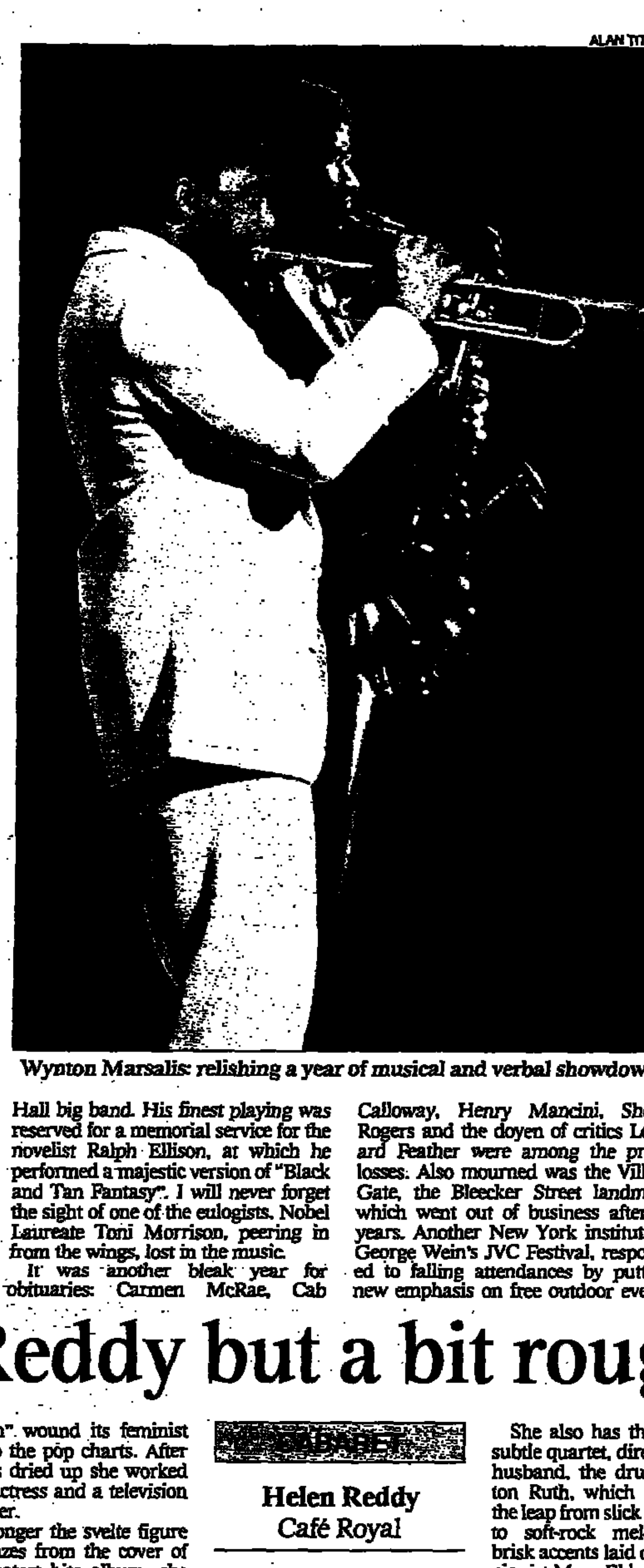
Artists, understandably, relish the rare opportunity to settle scores with hostile writers. But this confrontation raised much more serious questions, Collier accusing his opponent of displaying anti-white bias as director of Lincoln Center's jazz repertory programme, the most prestigious of its kind in the world. Marsalis hit back by denouncing Collier as a charlatan whose books were filled with errors.

It was not an edifying spectacle ("nasty, brutal and coyote-ugly" was one reporter's verdict) but it at least brought into the open the great unspoken subject of race. Collier's fundamental argument — cogently expressed in his provocative new survey *Jazz: The American Theme Song* — is that jazz is a profoundly democratic art which can never be the property of any single racial group. The book will be published by Oxford University Press this year; anyone interested in jazz history should join the queue for a copy.

As for Marsalis, he did his most persuasive talking through his music, leading a variety of bands through the center's concert season. In another showdown, but one in a more light-hearted vein, his orchestra scored a technical knockout over the Carnegie Hall big band. His finest playing was reserved for a memorial service for the novelist Ralph Ellison, at which he performed a majestic version of "Black and Tan Fantasy". I will never forget the sight of one of the eulogists, Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison, peering in from the wings, lost in the music.

It was another bleak year for obituaries: Carmen McRae, Cab Calloway, Henry Mancini, Shorty Rogers and the doyen of critics Leonard Feather were among the prime losses. Also mourned was the Village Gate, the Bleecker Street landmark which went out of business after 35 years. Another New York institution, George Wein's JVC Festival, responded to falling attendances by putting new emphasis on free outdoor events designed to win over a fresh generation of listeners. Behind it all was the realisation that the number of stars who can automatically fill a concert hall is diminishing year by year.

It takes a long time to replace the Dizzys and Stan Getzes of this world. One candidate has to be the young tenor saxophonist Joshua Redman, who is turning his back on the cerebral self-indulgences of Eighties neo-bop and striking out into more elemental territory. Redman is capable of playing just about anything on his horn, but he is also an unusual example of a jazz virtuoso who — most of the time, anyway — resists the temptation to dazzle his audience with every solo.



ALAN TITMUSS

Wynton Marsalis: *relishing a year of musical and verbal showdowns*

Still, it was the old hands who instinctively knew how to put on the best show, whether it was Lena Horne defying the years at Carnegie Hall, Mel Torme saluting Bing Crosby at Michael's Pub or Tito Puente and Celia Cruz kicking up another salsa storm at the Blue Note. Marian McPartland, who proudly holds onto her British passport half a century after crossing the water, had an exceptional year marked by the 15th anniversary of her radio talk show, *Piano Jazz*, and the release of her sophisticated tribute to another piano player, Mary Lou Williams. Seeing her play the tunes with Joshua Redman's hard-swinging bassist Christian McBride and his equally formidable drummer Brian Blade, at the Schomburg Center in Harlem, was akin to watching a fur-coated matron going for a stroll with a pit bull at the end of a leash.

And while most of the pop charts wallowed in that dismal combination of nihilism and mediocrity (a state of affairs summarised in Martha Bayles's new book, *Hole In Our Soul*) Frank Sinatra raised the banner for the old standards in his new album of high-tech duets, which turned out to be quite an improvement on 1993's bestseller. Lena Horne and Antonio Carlos Jobim were among those who phoned in their contributions. My fondest memory of the year is of making a 300-mile round-trip to see Sinatra perform at an antiseptic casino in the backwoods of Connecticut. Yes, he forgets more lyrics with each concert, but after hearing him swagger into Cole Porter's "At Long last Love" I would gladly have walked all the way home.

Reddy but a bit rough

WITHOUT much hoopla, the restored Green Room at the Café Royal is building an audience in a city starved of world-class cabaret, *Clive Davis writes*. If only the programming were less erratic. At the moment it veers from top-notch names to the sort of performers who would have been a perfect match for the QE2 this Christmas. One week it is Barbara Cook or Jimmy Webb, the next The Three Degrees. Cleo Laine is lined up for February; but she has to wait her turn after Vince Hill and Sister Sledge.

At first I was not sure which category the Australian-born singer Helen Reddy would fall into. After all it has been more than 20 years since "I Am Woman" wound its feminist way up the pop charts. After the hits dried up she worked as an actress and a television presenter.

No longer the svelte figure who gazes from the cover of her greatest hits album, she still possesses the feisty manner which comes across rather better in person than it did on her airbrushed records. It is not too difficult to see why the impresario Bill Kenwright has booked her to replace Carole King next month in the Broadway production of *Blood Brothers*.

CABARET

Helen Reddy
Café Royal

Reddy may not be the most polished of cabaret artists — some of the transitions between songs on the opening night were not as smooth as they might have been — but her lack of LA-land affectations and her direct manner give her set a touch of individuality.

She also has the help of a subtle quartet, directed by her husband, the drummer Milton Ruth, which can handle the leap from slick cocktail jazz to soft-rock melodies. The brisk accents laid down by the pianist Mary Eklar constantly prodded at Reddy's back, helping to keep the music from drifting too far in the direction of soft-focus MOR.

"I Am Woman", with all its evangelising sentiments intact, provided the climactic moment of the show, followed by an encore of Reddy's very first hit "I Don't Know How To Love Him". The other signature themes, "Angie Baby", "Leave Me Alone (Ruby Red Dress)" and "Delta Dawn", were all given confident readings, but in this setting it was more rewarding to hear her confront vintage songs such as "You Make Me Feel So Young" or "Get Happy", the latter rising from a minimalist backdrop of fingersnaps and a slinky bass line.

At full tilt Reddy's voice threatened to overpower the room. On "Some Cats Know", lifted from a new revue of Lieber and Stoller songs, she shaded down her delivery, added some husky blues inflections and blew metaphorical smoke rings into the air.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

AT SWIM-TWO-BIRDS Ridiculusmus stage *the unstageable* Flann O'Brien's boisterous novel dealing, in part, with a Dublin student's attempt to combine study with drinking *but also parodying* a wealth of Irish literary conventions.
BAC Studio Two, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (071-223 2223). Now previewing Tue to Sat 8.30pm, Sun 6.30pm. Opens Jan 3, 8.30pm. Till Jan 22

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE** Nigel Hawthorne amusing as the dilapidated Lord Ogleby but his direction prettifies and diminishes the play. Some clever supporting performances.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm mats Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **HAMLET** Peter Hall directs Stephen Dillane's darkly humorous, self-defeating Prince, backed by excellent playing from Michael Pennington, Donald Sinden and Alan Dobie.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm. Mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm ◪

☐ **MY NIGHT WITH REG** John Sessions and David Bamber in Kevin Elyot's excellent, award-winning *comedy with a dark edge*. Six gay men caught up in a web of reticence and deception.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Tue, Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Wed, 6.30pm and 8.15pm, mat Sat, 4pm ◪

■ **OLIVER!** A lavish revival of Bart's merry musical. This is low on social comment but big on tunes. Jonathan Pryce as Fagin.
Palladium, Argyll St, W1 (071-494 5020). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm ◪

◪ **A PASSIONATE WOMAN.** Stephanie Cole plays a woman who'd rather sit on the roof and dream than attend her son's wedding. Ned Sherrin directs Kay Mellor's entertaining, though lightweight comedy.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **THE RIVALS** Richard Cottrell's likeable production from Chichester, with Patricia Routledge's splendidly wild Mrs Malaprop like a lace-encrusted windmill. Limited season.

Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat 3pm. Until Jan 14

■ **THE SHAKESPEARE REVIEW** Devised and performed by members of the RSC, *The Shakespeare Review* ranges from the sharply satirical to broadly comic. It includes songs by Cole Porter, Stephen Sondheim and Sandy Wilson and sketches by Alan Bennett, Stephen Fry and Victoria Wood.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm ◪

■ **THREE TALL WOMEN** Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille show how youthful high spirits *peter into grim old age*. Superb performances in Edward Albee's powerful drama.
Wyndhams, *Charing Cross Road*, WC2 (071-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA** Tom Hollander sings Macheath in Kurt Weill's opera. Words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht". Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival.
Donmar Warehouse Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm, *mats Wed and Sat, 3pm* ◪

TO THE LIGHTHOUSE: After its successful national tour, Empty Space begins an 6-week London season of Virginia Woolf's novel adapted by Julia Limer. After 4 weeks at Hammersmith the production moves to the Warehouse, Croydon.
Lyric Studio, King St, W6 (081-741 2311). Preview Jan 4, 8pm. Opens Jan 5, 8pm. Mon to Sat 8pm. Mats Thurs (Jan 19) and Wed (Jan 25) 1.30pm, Sats 4pm. Till Jan 28

TREASURE ISLAND: Roy Marsden's most capable one-legged performance cannot save this from being a rather dim production. Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of bilge.
Mermaid, Puddle Dock, EC4 (071-236 2211). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats most days, 2pm or 2.30pm. No perf Jan 2 ◪

◪ **THE VENETIAN TWINS**: Michael Bogdanov's knockabout production loses some of Goldoni's comedy. David Troughton plays both twins. Ranjit Bolt translates.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm ◪

■ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** Patrick Barlow plays the unsquashable Toad in this year's revival, wonderfully staged, witty and lovely to look at.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2pm. Until Jan 14 ◪

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia** Haymarket (071-930 8800) ☐ **Beautiful Thing** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . ☐ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ◪ **Buddy** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ■ **Cats** New London (071-405 0072) . ☐ **Copacabana** Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) ☐ **Crazy for You** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner** Duchess (071-494 5070) . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe** Lyric (071-494 5045) ◪ **Grease** Dominion (071-416 6060) ◪ **An Inspector Calls** Aldwych (071-836 6404) ■ **Les Misérables** Palace (071-434 0909) . ◪ **Miss Saigon** Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap** St Martin's (071-836 1443) ☐ **Neville's Island** Apollo (071-494 5070) . ☐ **On Approval** Playhouse (071-839 4401) ☐ **Once on This Island**, Island (Royalty), (071-494 5090) ☐ **Only the Lonely** Piccadilly (071-369 1734) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie** Strand (071-930 8800) ☐ **The Queen and I** Vaudeville (071-836 9987) ☐ **She Loves Me** Savoy (071-836 8888) . ☐ **The Sisters Rosensweig** Old Vic (071-928 7616) ◪ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . ■ **Sunset Boulevard** Adelphi (071-344 0055) ☐ **Woman in Black** Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. **Correct at time of going to press; please check box office.**

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

VANYA ON 42ND STREET (U) Absorbing film of Andre Gregory's treatment of *"Uncle Vanya"*, caught in rehearsal by Louis Malle's cameras at a decrepit New York theatre. Wallace Shawn, Julianne Moore, Brooke Smith and George Gaynes head the fine cast.
Curzon Mayfair (071-369 1720)

CURRENT

CRONOS (18) An alchemist's device offers eternal youth and a taste for blood. Imaginative Mexican vampire film from promising director Guillermo del Toro.
Gate ◪ (071-727 4043) **Metro** (071-437 0757)

◆ **D2: THE MIGHTY DUCKS** (U): Stale adventures of America's ice hockey team in the Junior Goodwill Games. With Emilio Estevez. Director, Sam Weisman.
Odeons: Kensington (0426-914 666) **Mezzanine** (0426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426-914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner West End** (071-437 4343)

L'ENFER (15) Jealousy rages in a provincial hotel. Uneven thriller from Claude Chabrol, with Emmanuele Béart and François Cluzet.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER (U). The New York City Ballet's famous production, reverently transferred to film with Macaulay Culkin as the Nutcracker Prince. Director, Emile Ardolino
MGMs: Fulham Rd ◪ (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Rd** (071-636 6148)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire ◪ (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U): African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

◆ **MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN** (15): Unwieldy, overdone, unenjoyable slog through the famous story. Kenneth Branagh directs and stars with Robert De Niro.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** (U): John Hughes's gooey but just about *digestible remake of the 1947 fantasy*, with Richard Attenborough as a department store Santa.
Barbican ◪ (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (792 3332)

MY FAIR LADY (U): Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore. Directed by George Cukor.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279) **Gate** ◪ (071-727 4043)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG): The King of Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas. *Technically brilliant puppet fantasy* conceived by Tim Burton
Barbican ◪ (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **PRINCESS CARABOO** (PG): Airy, *amusing historical diversion*, with Phoebe Cates as the mysterious girl believed to be a Far Eastern princess. With Jim Broadbent, John Lithgow, Stephen Rea, Wendy Hughes. Director, Michael Austin
MGM Trocadero ◪ (071-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18) Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
Gate ◪ (071-727 4043) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Baker St** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (071-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

THE PUNK AND THE PRINCESS (18) Odd, engaging modern variation on *Romeo and Juliet*. Mike Sarne, one of the 1960s' likely lads, directs a young *cast and crew*.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. With James Woods, Eric Roberts, Rod Steiger. Director, Luis Llosa
MGMs: Fulham Road ◪ (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner West End** (071-437 4343)

STRAWBERRY AND CHOCOLATE (18): Sharp and ebullient plea for tolerance, sexual and otherwise, from veteran Cuban director Tomás Gutiérrez Alea
Metro (071-437 0757)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15) Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives: a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant
Chelsea (071-351 3742) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

TO LIVE (12). Simple, enthralling family epic from leading Chinese director Zhang Yimou. *With Ge You, Gong Li*
Curzon Phoenix (071-369 1721)

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 632 8300 (24hrs) *Ticketmaster (fee) 071 344 4444* The Birmingham Royal Ballet
THE NUTCRACKER
LAST WEEK ENDS SATURDAY
Eves 7.30, mats Today & Sat 2.30

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL BO 071 928 8800. Music Theatre London's joyously irreverent production of Rossini's CINDERELLA. "Irresistible" The Times. Today at 2.15 & 7.15pm. Ticket prices £7-£19.50.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets avail on the day. The Royal Ballet. Tomor 7.30 CINDERELLA Wed 7.30 THE SLEEPING BEAUTY "Stunning" Daily Mail. Thur 7.30 (First Night) SWAN LAKE

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 071 928 8800 English National Ballet
THE NUTCRACKER
21 Dec - 14 Jan. Eves 7.30pm, Mats (Until 2 Jan, 7, 11, 14 Jan) 2.30pm. No perfs Sun

STATE OPERA IN VIENNA Tickets, Travel & Season Guide (Jan-Jun). Austria On-Line, 10 Wardour St, London W1V 4BQ. 071 434 7399

THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal
SUNSET BOULEVARD
Starring ELAINE PAIGE Until 7th Jan except Thurs eves. 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 071 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 071 413 3302 (bkg fee) NO BOOKING FEE FOR PERSONAL CALLERS AT THE ADELPHI BOX OFFICE. Recorded information 071 379 8884. Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00. BETTY BUCKLEY returns on 9 Jan

ALBERY WC2 Tel BO 071 369 1730 Acc 071 344 4444 Grps 413 3321 PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE "MAGNIFICENT" D.Exp & RICHARD JOHNSON In The Chichester Festival Theatre production of
THE RIVALS
by RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN "A DELIGHT" D.Mail. Directed by Richard Cottrell. Eves 7.30 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00. LIMITED SEASON ENDS 14 JAN

ALDWYCH 071 836 6404/CC 497 9977/ 344-4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 071 930 6123. The Royal National Theatre production of J.B.Priestley's
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS
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MUST END 21 JAN 1995. WORLD TOUR OPENS AUSTRALIA 14 FEB. "THEATRICAL PERFECTION" Today. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 5 & 8.15pm, Wed Mat 2.30pm

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 071 416 6043 cc 24hrs 071 344 4444/071 497 9977 Grps 071 416 6075/071 413 3321 Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail. White knuckle runs 19.45 daily. Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £10.00. Extra Mat 29 Dec at 3pm

APOLLO BO/CC 24hrs 071 494 5072/344 4444 (no bkg fee) cc 497 9977 (bkg fee) TONY SLATTERY in
NEVILLE'S ISLAND
by Tim FIRTH. "THE MOST DAZZLING PLAY OF OUR TIMES" Jack Tinker. Mon-Fri 8.0 Sat 8.30. Mats Wed 2.30 & Sat 5.0

ARTS THEATRE Gt.Newport St WC2 BO 071 836 2132 / CC 071 344 4444 (24hrs)
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THE BRITISH MUSICAL. Eves (not Mon) 7.30pm Mats 3, 4 & 7 Jan 2.30pm

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE 071 494 5080 CC 497 9977/344 4444 (24hrs 7 days, bkg fee) New York's smash hit musical MAMA, I WANT TO SING starring CHAKA KHAN. Previews from 27 Jan

COMEDY BO 071 369 1731 cc 344 4444 Grps 413 3321 "The Shirley Valentine of the 90's" Daily Telegraph STEPHANIE COLE "Dazzlingly Special" D.Mail
A PASSIONATE WOMAN
"The most ingenious and funny comedy in town" Standard. By KAY MELLOR. Directed by NED SHERRIN. Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Wed 3pm, Sat 4pm

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MY NIGHT WITH REG
by Kevin Elyot. *Tonight at 8pm*. "Wonderfully witty and perceptive play...a real must see" Daily Express. "One of the funniest plays to be seen" Daily Mail

DOMINION Ticketlines 071 416 6060 071 497 9977 (bkg fee). Grps 071 416 6075/413 3321/240 7941
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Starring SHANE RICHIE and SONIA. "Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun." Daily Mirror. Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm. NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 1995. SOME GREAT SEATS AVAILABLE MON - THUR

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"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 6TH SENSATIONAL YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm. Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS 071 494 5060 (NO FEE)

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DUKE OF YORK'S 836 5122 cc 836 9837/836 3464/344 4444 (24hr 7 days) Jonathan Harvey's award-winning hit comedy
BEAUTIFUL THING
"fresh, funny, delightful" Obs. Mon-Thurs 8pm, Fri & Sat 6pm & 8.30. Jan 2 No Performance

FORTUNE BO & CC 071 836 2238 CC 497 9977 (24hrs No fee) 344 4444 (No fee)/ Grps 413 3321 "A REAL THRILL OF HORROR" The Sunday Times. JOHN NORMINGTON MICHAEL GRANDAGE. Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt. Mon-Fri 8pm, Mats Tues 3pm & Sat 4pm

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"AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENT...Peter Hall's magnificent production is studded with glittering performances. One of the great experiences of the year...YOU HAVE NO EXCUSE FOR MISSING THIS SEARING, THRILLING, MAJESTICAL PERFORMANCE" Sun Times. Eves 7.15, Mats Thur & Sat 2pm

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هكذا في الأصل

How Filofax punched its way out of a hole

The personal organiser firm, once near the brink, has turned over a new leaf. **Jon Ashworth** reports

Ten years ago, the hard, fast-talking, City woman had three distinguishing features: designer clothes, Golf GTi and never being seen without her trusty Filofax.

Today, the biggest buyers of Filofaxes are housewives — typically American or Japanese — and the company behind the name is steaming on to record profits.

Four years ago, however, Filofax was on the brink of receivership, dragged down by debt and nursing a full-year loss of £2.2 million. A new management team has pulled it back from the brink, so successfully that the company reported a pre-tax profit of £2.1 million for the six months to September alone. The share price has bounced from a low of 13p in November 1990 to trade near 220p. Filofax has embarked on a wave of acquisitions to bolster its new image as a tightly run group of related stationery businesses, spanning personal organisers, Yard-O-Led handmade pens, greetings cards and sticky memo pads.

Credit for the turnround must go to Robin Field, the management consultant who joined in 1990 and went on to become chief executive. Mr Field, who cut his teeth in the Far East with Jardine Matheson, was called in by David Collischon, who steered Filofax through the 1980s boom years with his wife, Lesley. Competition from cheaper rivals had bitten deeply into sales. The range of organiser inserts was too broad and overpriced — 36 variants designed for photographers (they never sold); £3.90 for a piece of paper. Costs had spiralled out of control.

Confident that nothing fundamental was wrong with the Filofax brand, Mr Field began hacking the enterprise back into shape. Some £2 million in excess stock literally went up in smoke — burnt and recycled. Summer 1990 saw a £2 million rights issue aimed at clearing the overdraft and restoring financial strength.

Product lines were slimmed and halved in price. Layers of management were removed.

After 14 months as an external consultant, Mr Field took a permanent seat on the board, and set about overseeing the next phase of Filofax's recovery. Christopher Brace was recruited from Carlton Communications as group finance director, and the company embarked on some carefully chosen acquisitions. Mr Field says: "I saw that the Filofax brand worldwide still had tremendous potential, but it needed investment."

The company has spent £14 million since September 1992 on acquisitions that strengthened its presence overseas and let it expand away from the classic personal organiser market. Last year it paid £3 million for Drakes Office Systems, which makes carbonless message books, and went on to pay £5.3 million for Henry Ling & Son, a maker of classic English greetings cards. A Danish time-management company, Systemplan, was bought in November 1993. A fresh foray on to the Continent is expected soon. The idea is to build a collection of branded social stationery producers, each with their own distribution network.

Much hinges on developments abroad. Filofax is strong in North America and Japan, where it plays on its "Englishness". About 70 per cent of sales are outside the UK. Housewives account for 65 per cent of custom.

The Filofax personal organiser dates from 1921, when it was sold by mail order to vicars and army officers, but it was only in the 1980s that it came into its own. Its good fortune evaporated with the recession, and there are plenty of competitors waiting for Mr Field to make the same mistakes. So far, he appears in no danger of letting the company run away with itself, as it did ten years ago. The Filofax success story is set to continue — Japanese and American housewives willing.

A tale of two labour markets

Philip Bassett reveals OECD findings on British and US strategies

When British ministers such as Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, want to display their Euroscepticism, one of the sticks they use to beat Brussels is jobs: if Europe is so wonderful, they argue, why does its job creation record compare so poorly with that of the United States?

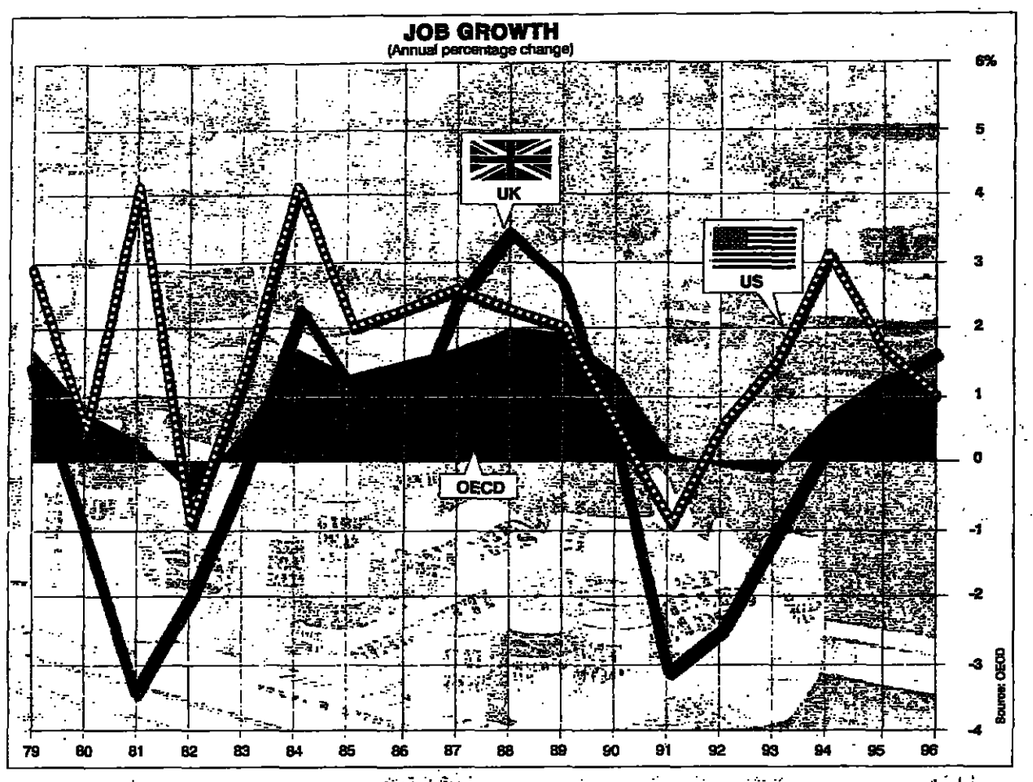
Although even the most ardent Europhile cannot argue that Europe outperforms America on jobs, some UK business leaders are increasingly doubtful that the US-Europe distinction is so clear-cut.

They look at the different labour market models of Europe and the US, and point out that policymakers in both seem to be moving away from the characteristics that defined them. Under President Clinton, the highly flexible US labour market is becoming more regulated, while the competitiveness thrust now accepted in Brussels is, to some extent, diluting the strong regulatory emphasis of the social charter years.

Such shifts may not be permanent. Since his drubbing in the mid-term elections, President Clinton may be moving back towards the economic centreground, while Jacques Santer, the new European Commission president, is untested, although few European business and political leaders expect him to reflect the same social drive as his predecessor, Jacques Delors.

Within such shifting policy ground, authoritative cross-country analysis is vital, so the studies of the UK, the US and other labour markets by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development may well be important.

After its groundbreaking, 24-month *Jobs Study* in the summer, which formed a vital part of the new emphasis on jobs by the G7 leading economic nations, the Paris-based OECD is now trying to assess for each member country the "full profile of micro policies and practices".



So far, the OECD has refused to disclose its country-by-country studies, although it said that it intended to do so in the new year. However, *The Times* has obtained copies of the studies. They tend to emphasise the increasing similarities between the UK and US labour markets (although the gap between the levels of employment in each is large), and — to the satisfaction of UK Eurosceptics — the differences between British and continental policies and practices.

The conclusions of the OECD's study of the UK labour market, the most authoritative independent examination of jobs and unemployment in Britain, emphasise the importance of government action on jobs.

The radical shift in economic policy that accompanied the advent of the Conservative Government in 1979 was, it says, the main reason for the "spectacular increase in British unemployment in the early 1980s" as the new Government tackled over-employment in "non-competitive" and "sheltered" sectors and industries, and labour market reforms that followed led to acceleration of employment growth.

Rules on hiring and firing in Britain have become "very unrestrictive", the OECD study says, and, as *The Times* reports today, it concludes that the Government's reforms have had the effect of "arguably making the UK labour market one of the least regulated in Europe, if not the entire OECD area". Such a judgment will please Conservative economic ministers, who have made labour market flexibility a cornerstone of policy. Labour will point out that this means British workers enjoy less job protection than employees in such OECD countries as Turkey and Greece, let alone Germany and Japan.

While recovery can handle part of the unemployment of the early 1990s, the OECD says, a substantial part of UK unemployment is now non-cyclical, and needs further structural reforms to combat it. Kenneth Clarke's Budget has taken some of the steps proposed by the OECD, including extending job subsidy schemes tested in four areas.

Labour says that the schemes' subsidies, of up to £60 a week, are too low to interest most employers, and the OECD accepts the importance of getting the right balance, arguing that the subsidy has to be enough "to overcome employer prejudice with respect to the long-term unemployed" but not so high as to make someone newly hired from the long-term unemployed more attractive than an experienced worker.

OECD analysts also tread carefully in delicate political areas, suggesting that the indefinite duration of income support should be "reconsidered" or supplemented by a work requirement — workfare, along lines practised in the US — that provides work experience but does not pay a wage that makes regular work unattractive. Some Conservatives balk at the high cost of workfare, but the OECD suggests that it could be funded by savings on income support.

Finally, as well as noting that the jobs created in Britain differ greatly from those that have gone — more women, more part-timers, more temporary workers — the OECD remains unconvinced about how far Conservative labour market reforms have increased real wage flexibility.

Pay flexibility is seen by the OECD as one of the main reasons for the US labour market's good performance.

In its unpublished analysis of the US, paralleling its study of the UK, the OECD praises the relative stability of US unemployment as "remarkable", given the 50 per cent increase in the American US labour force in the past 25 years.

High geographical mobility, something ministers have yearned for in Britain, is seen as a key feature of the employment success of the US, both in absorbing large numbers of new entrants to the workforce, and in mitigating economic shocks to particular areas and industrial sectors by helping to prevent the emergence of long-term unemployment.

The disadvantage of high labour market mobility is that workers have relatively low attachment to the companies that employ them, and, as a result, firms have little incentive to invest in training.

That exacerbates a key problem in America, the skills gap. Individuals with low education levels are the only group in the US less likely than the average for the industrialised countries to get a job — often pushed aside by babyboomers moving up the employment hierarchy and by the greater number of women in work. In this respect, the OECD paints a bleak picture for the future of the US labour market.

High college dropout rates for blacks and Hispanics, for instance, have "very disturbing implications" for the average skill levels of the US workforce, while, in overall terms, the "growing skill-based disparities in employment and earnings have the makings of a major social problem".

Conservative ministers opposed to Labour's support for a statutory minimum wage will also find little comfort in the OECD view that, because minimum wage rates in the US have lagged average wage growth, the minimum wage in America "probably has little bearing on unemployment".

In overall terms, economic recovery across the OECD area and the accompanying rise in employment — even, now, in the UK — has helped to slow the rise in unemployment, which the organisation now believes peaked last year at about 35 million, or just over 8 per cent of the workforce.

For Britain, the OECD believes that unemployment could be slightly below that rate by the end of 1996, but ministers are likely to be disappointed if the fall in joblessness does not beat that forecast.

The OECD strikes a gloomier note about the US, suggesting that rising inflation in America will require a period of below-potential growth and consequent higher unemployment to purge it. If so, the US jobs model beloved of UK ministers may not be quite the one to follow. Business may be proved right in its belief that the labour markets of Europe and the US are more complicated than to allow straightforward rejection of one in favour of the other.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Thoughts turn to Year of the Pig

ONE new year has just started, but thoughts are already turning to the next. The Year of the Pig, Chinese style, dawns on January 31. Lori Reid, an analyst of hands, and author of books on the subject, points out that any Year of the Pig is the twelfth sign in Oriental astrology and, therefore, each Pig year ends a cycle. So, concentrate on endings, she says. The year ahead is not auspicious for starting major projects, but there will be a greater sense of optimism, and the economy should be more buoyant.



Concentrate on endings in the new year, says Lori Reid

Full of resolve

WHAT is it about East Anglia? IFA Promotion, which represents more than 15,000 independent financial advisers, commissioned a random poll of new year resolutions. More than 12.5 million Britons will start 1995 with a resolution, according to the poll, but the regional skew is alarming. Nearly a third of East Anglians resolved to stay healthy in 1995, compared with 8 per cent nationally, but none of them was willing to drink, smoke and eat less. Some 66 per cent of East Anglians who gave up smoking and drinking last new year started again after less than a week. IFA Promotion estimates that 1.5 million people have broken their resolution by the end of New Year's Day.

That's showbiz

ROS GUNSTON, publisher of *Business Entertainment 1995*, a 500-page guide intended to steer the City around the delights of the corporate entertainment circuit, wants to know why the Inland Revenue has ordered a copy. My suspicion is that the £69.50 guide is being scrutinised by taxmen keen to tap new sources of revenue. Anyone wanting a copy can write to Ms Gunston, 4 Spice Court, Plantation Wharf, SW11.

Finnish line

SO KEEN to serve during the quiet week between Christmas and new year, William Clutterbuck, of the Maitland Consultancy, the City PR firm, issued a press notice about Omnitel, his new client, in Italian only. The firm's Italian speaker was on holiday, it seems. The notice says that Omnitel, Italy's first non-state cellular phone operator, has launched its first *sperimentale* (trial) service. An accompanying release said that Omnitel has signed up for hardware from Nokia, Finland's mobile phone maker. What a blessing the releases were not in Finnish!

COLIN CAMPBELL

As you like it, on the record

The Shellac Show. *Radio 3, 5.15pm.*

Nostalgia is an active ingredient of Jeremy Nicholas's series of listeners' musical requests. But there is something else at work here. It is the recognition of exceptional artistry. All the recordings we hear exist either on 78s alone or on transfers from shellac to LP or CD. We have to put up with some egg-frying noises, hissing and the occasional click. But it is a small price to pay for exemplary performances such as Beecham's 1933 recording with the London Philharmonic of the *Silken Ladder* overture, or Hess's and Harty's 1931 keyboard partnership in Dvořák's Slavonic Dance No 1. Edward Greenfield's *The Record Producers* at 6pm is a logical progression from *The Shellac Show*.

Operama: Peter Grimes. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

This is *Grimes* without Britten, though not without music. The prolific Ilona Sekacz has given the turbulent fisherman a new suit of musical clothes that fit him almost as well as Britten's did. Martyn Wade's drama is part literary biography, part detective yarn, part horror story. It is an ingenious piece of work. The key role is not really Grimes but the poet Charles Crabbe (played as a youth by Sean Pertwee and as a man by Ronald Pickup) whose sketches in *The Borough* inspired Britten to write his opera. Wade has restored to Grimes (Roger Allam) the sadism that Britten removed from him. You may need some time to adjust to the change. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes **7.00** Kevin Greening **10.00** Simon Mayo, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Clive Warren **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** *Woodstock 94 . . . The Highlights* **10.00** Mark Radcliffe: Music, comedy and interviews from Manchester **Midnight** Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Steve Jones, including at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.00pm** Rolf Harris **2.00** Fiona Armstrong **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn's Pick of After Six Guests **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Frank Carson — 50 Years a Cracker **8.00** Malcolm Laycock with Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz **10.00** *Distant Voices (1/6)* **10.30** *The Jamesons* **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

Midnight Test Match Special: *Australia v England on the second day of the third Test* **7.00** The Breakfast Programme, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, including at **10.15** Health and Fitness Campaign; **10.35** Euronews and at **11.00** Actuality **11.05** Yule Never Believe This! **11.35** The Acid Test Special (r) **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Sport on Five, including football and racing from Cheltenham **5.05** Sports Report **6.05** Six-O-Six **7.35** The Monday Match: *Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal* **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, including the Financial World Tonight **11.30** Yule Never Believe This! (r) **Midnight** Test Match Special: Australia v England

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News in German **5.00** News **6.00** News and Features in German **6.30** EuroRegions **7.00** News **7.15** *Oscar and Lucinda* **7.30** In the Shadow of the Bomb **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** I've Got Something To Tell You **9.30** Learning World **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** In the Market Place **10.30** Vintage Chart Show **11.00** News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** News in German **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Inspiration **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *Oscar and Lucinda* **2.45** Multitrack Sessions **3.00** News **3.15** World at the Time **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News and Features in German **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** News **6.30** News and Features in German **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Poets of Place **7.45** Health **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe **9.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.30** Multitrack **12.00** News **12.15** A Jolly Good Show **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health **2.00** News **2.30** Inspiration **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** News

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Jane Markham **9.00** CD Give Away **12.00** At the Movies **2.00pm** Ballet Matinée: *La Fille mal gardée* **4.00** Sarah Ward **6.00** The New News Year **7.00** The LSO — 90 Legendary Years: 1964-1968 **8.00** Evening Concert: In celebration of the 90th birthday of Sir Michael Tippett **10.00** Classic Quiz **1.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN

6.00am Paul Coyte **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather **7.00 On Air**, with Andrew McGregor. Boyce (Overture No 3 in B flat); Ireland (A London Overture); **7.32** Haydn (String Quartet in D, Op 35 No 65); Trad (The Old Year now away is fled, Greensleeves); **8.32** Torke (Monday); Britten (Welcome Ode, Op 95)
9.00 Composers of the Week: The Eton Choirbook
10.00 Musical Encounters, presented by Maki Nicholson. J. Strauss, son (Waltz: The Blue Danube); Mendelssohn (Herr Gott, du bist uns're Zuflucht); Mozart (Andante in F, K819); Mozart (Fantasy in F, K608); Stravinsky (Petrushka); Wagner, arr Liszt (O du mein holder Abendstern, Tannhäuser: Liebestod, Tristan und Isolde); Britten (Rejoice in the Lamb); Bach, arr Stokowski (Toccata and Fugue in D minor)
12.00 The Essential Guide to Plot Devices: Secrets. Rodney Milnes explores plots in opera
1.00pm Bernard Roberts, piano, from the 1994 Criccieth Festival. Mozart (Sonata in B flat, K333); Schubert (Three Pieces, D946); John Metcalf (Inner Landscapes); Beethoven (Sonata in E flat, Op 81a, *Les Adieux*)
2.30 Tippett Conducts Tippett: Sir Michael Tippett conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra on his 90th birthday. Tippett (Symphony No 2; Symphony No 4)
3.45 First English Sonatas: Timothy Roberts plays John Burton (Sonata V in D); Pinto (Sonata in A, Op 3 No 2)
4.30 Hot Keys: Ron Geesin presents the first of a four-part series on the American pianist and composer James P. Johnson
5.00 The Music Machine (r)
5.15 The Shellac Show: See Choice
6.00 The Record Producers: Fred Gaisberg
7.30 Music for a While, live from Birmingham Town Hall. Michael Berkeley presents the first of five invitation concerts to celebrate the 90th birthday of Sir Michael Tippett and to mark the 300th anniversary of the death of Henry Purcell. *Sinfonia Singers and the City* of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox. Tippett (Divertimento on Sellinger's Round); Purcell (My Beloved Spake); Tippett (Concerto for double string orchestra); **8.30** Friends and fellow musicians pay tribute to Sir Michael Tippett on his 90th birthday; **8.50** Purcell (Hear my prayer, O Lord; Remember not, Lord, our offences); John Woolrich (Another Staircase Overture); Tippett (Fantasia Concertante on a theme of Corelli)
10.00 From Magic to Rationalism: Witches. The first of four talks by Ronald Hutton about changes of attitude in Henry Purcell's England
10.20 Friday Evenings: Russian miniatures from *Les Vendredis*
10.45 Mixing It: Mark Russell and Robert Sandall introduce their favourite tracks from 1994
11.30-12.30am Music Restored: How traditional French Christmas music transferred to the 18th-century salon

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Serial Reading **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week: Among Melvyn Bragg's guests are *Times* columnist Simon Jenkins
10.00-10.30 News; Questions of Taste (FM only): Chris Kelly toasts the New Year
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Children's Radio 4 (LW only): The Willows in Winter, by William Horwood (4/5)
10.30 Women's Hour from Belfast. Wendy Austin considers the impact of the Irish potato famine, 150 years ago
11.30 The Best Man's Burden: Words and music on the tribulations of being best man at a wedding
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.28pm Counterpoint: Ned Sherrin returns with heat one of the music quiz **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Mr McNamara: Sean Barrett, T.P. McKenna and Kate Binchy star in William Trevor's play. Young Michael's father owns a flour mill in 1940s Ireland and makes frequent trips to Dublin where he meets Mr McNamara. When his father dies, Michael travels to Dublin in search of Mr McNamara, where he makes a surprising discovery (r)
3.00 Anderson Country
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Reviews the Taboos. Paul Vaughan and guests discuss how the arts have treated religion over the past 21 years
4.45 Short Story: Remembering Madame Butterfly, by Joanne Whiteley. Read by Tilly Vosburgh
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Just a Minute: Clement Freud, Derek Nimmo, Paul Merton and Tony Hawks try to talk for a minute without hesitation, repetition or deviation. With Nicholas Parsons in the chair (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme (r)
7.45 Operama: Peter Grimes. See Choice
9.15 Four on a Tour: In 1914, four Americans set out from Manchester on a 3,000-mile motoring holiday around Britain (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Phantom of the Opera. Jack Klaff reads the first of a ten-part adaptation of Gaston Leroux's novel, as part of the *Operama* season
11.00 The Street: Backroad West, St Ives, Cornwall (r)
11.30 The Christopher Marlowe Mysteries, by Ged Parsons. Another bewildering assignment for Elizabethan England's keenest wit. With Dominic Jephcott (r)
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

مكتبا بن الازحل

Good, clean farmyard fun, thanks to Flora

The plot of Stella Gibbons's **Cold Comfort Farm** is something like that of Oscar Wilde's "The Canterville Ghost". In Wilde's story, a modern American family purchase a haunted house in England, and take the supernatural consequences in their stride — when the ghost creaks his chains outside their bedrooms, they step onto the landing, introduce themselves, and recommend lubricants; as for the hideous blood stain in the library (the ghost has kept it fresh for centuries), it is tackled at once with elbow grease and a patent American solvent.

Young Flora Poste's response to the gloom of the Starkadders at Cold Comfort Farm is similarly evocative of the White Tornado. She may be a poor orphan, but she is also by training a London sophisticate with an impressive contact book, and positive ideas about "the higher common sense". In John Schlesinger's cheerful BBC 1 production last night (script by Malcolm Bradbury; lush horrible music; stars so big they were listed alphabetically), Kate Beckinsale bore the brunt of the piece with admirable lightness. No sooner did she see old Adam (Freddie Jones) "clettering" the dishes with a small twig than she proposed a sensible mop. All the inert, doomed people in that inert, doomed house were talked round by Flora in the end. It was no accident that the book she hoped one day to write was "a novel as good as *Persuasion*".

People will say *Cold Comfort Farm* is a delicate, literary book (full of pastiche "fine writing") which will not bear the combined weight of Joanna Lumley, Stephen Fry, Freddie Jones, Eileen Atkins and Ian McKellen. Personally, I thought it bore up well — it was still funny, anyway, especially the Church of the Quivering Brethren. Stephen Fry was unlikely as a Lawrentian writer, bowels aflame for Flora (genuine passion is hardly his forte); also, Ian McKellen's Sussex accent made unscheduled tours of Yorkshire and Ireland. But otherwise the stars did not wrestle like polecats in a sack, as I'd feared.

I could complain that the beauteous Rufus Sewell (manly, glowering Seth, for whom Flora cleverly finds a talent scout) might have spent more time on screen, but possibly that's my problem, not John Schlesinger's. Either way, the BBC should be encouraged to consider a spin-off, called *Seth in Hollywood*, or *Mollocking Abroad for Fame and Fortune*.

A great surprise about *Cold Comfort Farm* was that it worked at all in the 1990s, when the literary model of, "I ha' scranleted two hundred furrows from Ticklepenny Corner down to Nettle Flitch", no longer rings a bell. But even though parody is dangerous ground for humour, it will never die. Just holding the ball makes you look terribly clever, even if you have nowhere in particular to run with it.

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

French and Saunders regularly present wonderful pastiches that take advantage of this principle. In the last series their *Thelma and Louise* was sublime; their *House of Elliot*, in which Kathy Burke played seamstress Tilly with a Chelsea bun over each ear, was an utter joy.

In Friday's **French and Saunders Christmas Special** (BBC 1), they went hell for leather — not only *Martin Chuzzlewit* but also *The Piano*. Millions of their viewers will have missed *The Piano* at the cinema, but tough luck, they should get out more. It was hilarious: the two Victorian women in black bonnets on the lonely beach — Jennifer Saunders as the silent mother; Dawn French (standing in a hole) as the wee Scottish girl. "Aye think aye wull dance, mither!" she announces, and then you see her with bits of seaweed, trilling "You take the high road and I'll take the low road" and "Donald, where's your troosers?"

All the sketches on *French and Saunders* fizzle out at the end, but that's the nature of most sketch shows. The term "pay-off" is unknown; and we have learned the virtue of travelling hopefully. I can't remember how the county ladies sketch ended, but the characterisations were clever; and the boarding school girls brought out some good acting. Christmas comedy has been dreadful this year; *French and Saunders* did a lot to cheer things up.

But if comedy has been a disappointment, the range of singing has brought lots of pleasant surprises. For example, there was an *Unplugged* concert from Tony Bennett (whose fans in this country may not have caught his ill-advised electric phase); there was José Carreras as Mario Lanza, and Barbra Streisand as the inimitable Barbra Streisand. And on Friday night there was **This is Garth Brooks, Too** (BBC 2), an account of a Dallas stadium country-and-western extravaganza that was so enormous, slick and spectacular that when huge, real flames shot high out of channels on the stage, the audience roared for more, rather than stampeding for the exits.

Finally, Channel 4's tribute to Frankie Howerd yesterday (**Heroes of Comedy**) was a proper job, though it repaid its contributors badly by making Clive Anderson and Ned Sherrin look like bank robbers who'd forgotten to remove the stockings knotted at the tops of their heads. Howerd was of the generation whose material was written by other people — if the writers left out the "No"s and "Ooh"s and "Titter ye nots"s, he complained about it: if they put them in, he said "Leave the spontaneous remarks to me". Arguably, however, this arrangement left his mind clear to concentrate on performance — and as a performer, there will never be anyone remotely like him.

BBC1

7.00 News, regional news and weather (4037735)
7.10 Secret Life Of Toys (r) (s) (8437591) **7.25 Felix the Cat** (3487096) **7.40 Playdays** (s) (8466685)
8.00 News, regional news and weather (4495395)
8.10 Joe 90. *Puppet adventures of the boy genius* (7980192) **8.35 Swat Kats** (r) (s) (5089111)
9.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather *(4330463)* ***9.05 Bucky O'Hare*** *(r) (4374734)* **9.30 The Worst Day Of My Life: Out of Your Mind** (58024)
10.00 *Orville and Cuddles* *(r) (1138260)* ***10.05*** **The Legend of Prince Valiant** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6647662)
10.30 The Best of Blue Peter *(r). (Ceefax) (s) (21482)*
11.00 FILM: Return To Oz (1985) starring Nicol Williamson and Jean Marsh. A sequel to *The Wizard of Oz directed by Walter Murch (12185685)* **12.45 Cartoon** (68363463) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (78079937)
1.00 News *(Ceefax) and weather (68302918)*
1.05 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (34422918) **1.30 Cartoon** (97518173)
1.40 FILM: Bless This House (1972) starring Sidney James, Diana Coupland, Terry Scott and June Whitfield. Big screen version of the popular television sit-com series. Directed by Gerald Thomas (8191289)
3.05 The Planets On Ice. Spectacular skating by the Olympic stars Paul and Isabelle Duchesnay to the music of Holst's *The Planets*, choreographed by Lar Lubovitch (5306686)
4.00 EastEnders (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2792821)
4.55 Final Score (s) (7009579)
5.10 Cartoon (9851444)
5.20 News (Ceefax) and weather (9871208)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (800192)

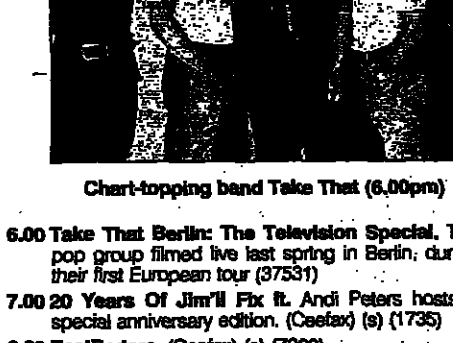
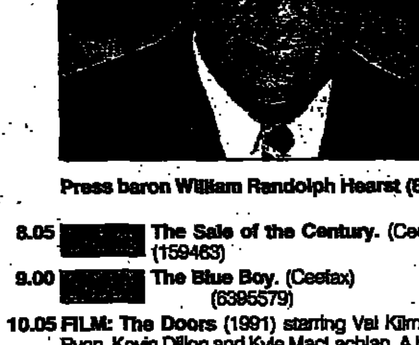


Chart-topping band Take That (6.00pm)

6.00 Take That Berlin: The Television Special. The pop group filmed live last spring in Berlin, during *their first European tour (37531)*
7.00 20 Years Of Jim'll Fix It. Andi Peters hosts a special anniversary edition. (Ceefax) (s) (1735)
8.00 EastEnders. *(Ceefax) (s) (7260)*
8.30 FILM: Gorillas in the Mist (1988) starring Sigourney Weaver and Bryan Brown. The story of anthropologist Dian Fossey who went to Rwanda in 1967 to research the effects of poaching on mountain gorillas and, over a period of 20 years, *built up a strong bond with the creatures. Directed* by Michael Apted. (Ceefax) (s) (39043802)
10.35 News (Ceefax) and weather (720111)
10.55 Match of the Day introduced by Desmond Lynam (s) (7371685)
12.10am FILM: Code of Silence (1985) starring Chuck Norris and Henry Silva. *A drama about a police* rookie who watches in horror as his experienced partner shoots a young boy dead and then covers *up the murder to make it look justified.* Because of the police department's unwritten code of silence he is unable to report the crime. Directed by Andy Davis (s) (104965) **1.45 Weather** (8138970)

BBC2

7.30 FILM: The Return Of Peter Grimm. (1935, b/w) starring Lionel Barrymore. A fantasy tale of a man who returns from the dead in order to undo the mess he made of his and his family's lives. Directed by George Nicholls Jr (8874647)
8.50 FILM: The Curse of the Cat People (1944, b/w) starring Simone Simon, Kent Smith and Jane Randolph. Horror sequel to *Cat People* about a *lonely child who summons up the spirit of her* father's first wife for company. Unfortunately the woman believes she is descended from a race of cat people. Directed by Gunter Von Fritsch and Robert Wise (5840482)
10.00 The Orson Welles Story. An interview with the legend of cinema, stage and radio in which he talks about his life and career (s) (50473918)
12.20 FILM: Citizen Kane (1941, b/w) starring Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten and Everett Sloane. The first in the BBC's 100 season, marking cinema's centenary. A strong drama about the story of Charles Foster Kane, an enigmatic, powerful newspaper magnate and presidential hopeful, shown in flashbacks. Directed by Orson Welles. (Ceefax) (871289)
2.15 The Huw Wheldon Lecture. Television dramatist Andrew Davies delivers this year's Royal Television Society lecture on the joy and pain of writing for television and the current state of popular drama (5837685)
3.05 World Darts. Dougie Donnelly introduces action from the Embassy World Professional championship. The commentator is Tony Green (s) (71168647)
6.00 FILM: Carousel (1956) starring Gordon MacRae and Shirley Jones. An acclaimed Rodgers and Hammerstein musical fantasy about a fairground worker who is killed during a bungled robbery but returns to Earth for a day to help his wife and daughter. Directed by Henry King (73399956)



Press baron William Randolph Hearst (8.05pm)

8.05 **The Sale of the Century.** (Ceefax) (s) (159463)
9.00 **The Blue Boy.** (Ceefax) (6395579)
10.05 FILM: The Doors (1991) starring Val Kilmer, Meg Ryan, Kevin Dillon and Kyle MacLachlan. A biopic of rock legend Jim Morrison, the lead singer of the 1960s band The Doors, whose promising early career gave way to an excess of drinks and drugs and finally to death in 1970 in the bath of a Paris apartment. Directed by Oliver Stone (63126579)
12.20am Weather (9678390)
12.25 World Darts. Highlights of tonight's matches (s) (2701680). Ends at **1.30**

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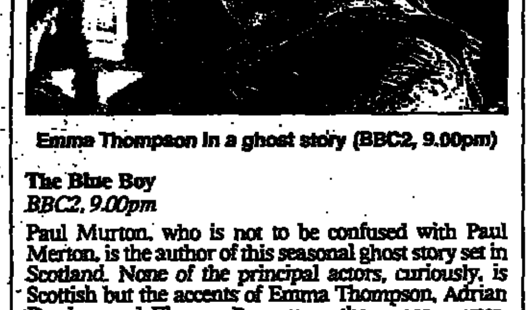
CHOICE

A Mind to Murder
ITV, 8.30pm

Roy Marsden returns as the policeman-poet Adam Dalgliesh to solve a murder in a psychiatric hospital. The P.D. James story is more than 30 years old but thanks to judicious updating it remains topical, not least in its treatment of government secrecy. If you can say it of a drama that features a brutal killing, this is civilised entertainment, depending much on the unravelling of character and motive and not at all on screeching tyres and random thuggery. Dalgliesh may be more cerebral than most top cops but in Marsden's laconic portrayal he comes credibly to life and the hospital's staff and patients provide plenty of well-drawn suspects. East Anglian locations provide a discreet but effective backdrop.

The Sale of the Century
BBC2, 8.05pm

Even multi-millionaires can fall on relatively hard times. In 1941, forced by the banks to raise $11 million quickly, William Randolph Hearst decided to sell off part of his art collection. The imperious newspaper proprietor took the fifth floor of a New York department store and filled it with a dazzling array of objects. In the first week 100,000 people turned up. They got some bargains. A Van Dyck portrait went for a mere $175,000. From New York Hugh Scully tells the story with the help of some of the buyers. He also uses the *Antiques Roadshow* format to give pieces from the Hearst collection modern valuations. Orson Welles's *Citizen Kane*, a thinly-disguised portrait of Hearst, is being shown at 12.20pm.



Emma Thompson in a ghost story (BBC2, 9.00pm)

The Blue Boy
BBC2, 9.00pm

Paul Murton, who is not to be confused with Paul Merton, is the author of this seasonal ghost story set in Scotland. None of the principal actors, curiously, is Scottish but the accents of Emma Thompson, Adrian Dunbar and Eleanor Bron more than pass muster. Thompson and Dunbar play a couple whose marriage is foundering in his infidelity. She is hoping that her pregnancy will bring them together again, a hope that is tested when she accompanies him on a business trip to the Highlands. The ghostly element, involving a young boy who drowned in the loch 100 years before, is some time emerging. Prowling camerawork and spooky music cannot disguise a lack of genuine tension. But there is a sting in the tail.

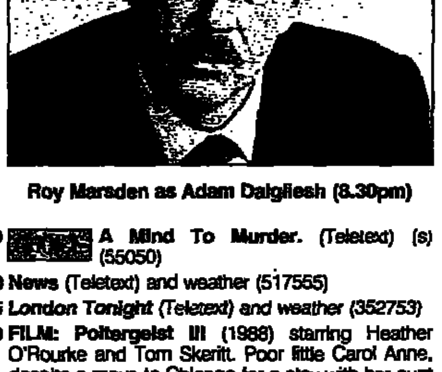
The King Meets the President
Channel 4, 9.00pm

One of the odder and least publicised episodes in the life of Elvis Presley was an encounter at the White House in 1970 with President Nixon. The meeting was unscheduled and entirely on Presley's initiative. He collected badges and was after the ultimate one, the badge of the United States Bureau of Narcotics. The erstwhile bad boy of rock was determined to prove his anti-drug credentials. When his letter to Nixon arrived, aides thought it was a joke. But Elvis was ushered into the Oval Office in his purple velvet suit and put his request to a bemused President. The only records of the exchange are a two-page memo and 28 still photos. But those who witnessed the meeting are able to fill in the detail.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (3884043)m
9.25 NEW **Chain Letters.** Ted Robbins introduces the word game show (4370918)
9.55 Warner Brothers Cartoons (5672227)
10.05 FILM: Kidco (1984) *starring* Scott Schwartz. A fact-based children's drama about an enterprising and streetwise 12-year-old who, with the help of his sisters, founds a successful manure business. (85402602)
12.00 Home and Away. (Teletext) (31442)
12.30 News *(Teletext)* and weather (68488043)
12.40 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (7065685)
1.10 Laugh With the Carry Ons (34420550)
1.40 Cindy Crawford: Stuntwomen World Tour (r) (3060482)
2.30 FILM: On Golden Pond (1981) starring Katharine Hepburn, Henry Fonda and Jane Fonda. Oscar-winning weepie about an irascible, ageing professor and his adoring wife on a summer holiday at their New England cottage, who *are* joined by their estranged daughter and her new, young stepson. Directed by Mark Rydell (24685)
4.30 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (82)
5.00 ITN News (Teletext), sport and weather (9880956)
5.10 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (6367869)
5.15 FILM: Superman IV — The Quest For Peace (1987) starring Christopher Reeve and Gene Hackman. Lex Luthor makes an evil android from Kryptonite to stymie Superman. Directed by Sidney J. Furie (46777314)
7.00 Wish You Were Here...? Reports on a Caribbean Christmas cruise; the German town of Wurzburg; and shopping and sightseeing in New York. (Teletext) (s) (3208)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (11)
8.00 Police Stop! Alastair Stewart introduces car chases *and crashes* captured on film by police video cameras on Britain's roads (r) (s) (2956)

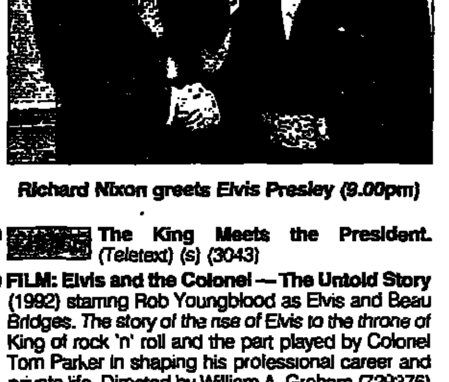


Roy Marsden as Adam Dalgliesh (8.30pm)

8.30 **A Mind To Murder.** (Teletext) (s) (55050)
10.30 News (Teletext) and weather (517555)
10.45 London Tonight *(Teletext) and weather (352753)*
10.50 FILM: Poltergeist III (1988) starring Heather O'Rourke and Tom Skerritt. Poor little Carol Anne, *despite a move to Chicago for a stay with her aunt* and uncle, is again terrorised by malevolent spirits. Directed by Gary Sherman (75854579)
12.35am FILM: The Hunters (1974) starring Tony Lo Bianco, Don Meredith and Dane Clark. Thriller about two detectives whose search for a murderer and *thief leads them back to San Quentin. Richard* Benedict directs (2714154)
2.00 Sport AM (72116)
3.00 FILM: Amsterdamned (1988) starring Huub Stapel. A Dutch policeman searches for a killer who emerges from the canals of Amsterdam at night. *Directed by Dick Maas (128222)*
4.55 The Time . . . The Place (r) (s) (2875406)
5.30 ITN Morning News (69796). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Once Upon A Time . . . Life (r) (8590192)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (76821)
9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (25208)
9.30 NEW **Stand Still, Be Fit.** A ten-part series in which Lam Kam Chuen explains how the power of breathing and relaxation can enhance health (s) (8381005)
9.45 The Morning Line (987579)
10.15 FILM: Buster's World (1984) starring Mads Bugge Anderson. An eight-year-old boy uses his imagination and special powers to handle the big world in this fantasy children's tale. Directed by Bille August (86731918)
12.00 Every Dog's Guide to Complete Home Safety. A Canadian-made short (6748869)
12.15 Sesame Street (201821)
1.15 Channel 4 Racing from Cheltenham and Windsor. Live coverage of the 1.25, 2.10, 2.45 and 3.20 from Cheltenham and the 1.55, 2.30 and 3.05 races from Windsor (76943753)
3.40 Strings. A short story by Wendy Tilby about an elderly neighbour (5945918)
3.55 *Garden Club* *(r). (Teletext)* (3655937)
4.30 NEW **Countdown.** Richard Whiteley and Carol Vorderman launch the 29th series (24)
5.00-4.35am Elvis 4-Ever: Aloha From Hawaii. Elvis Presley in concert. (Teletext) (3821)
6.00 News summary and weather (781734)
6.05 Elvis in Hollywood. How the young Elvis took to the film capital of the world. (Teletext) (s) (368596)
7.05 FILM: Blue Hawaii (1961) starring Elvis Presley, Joan Blackman and Angela Lansbury. A light musical about a soldier who returns to his Honolulu home and starts work as a courier for a travel agency, with the chance of singing 15 songs, instead of going into the family business. Directed by Norman Taurog . (Teletext) (10622550)



Richard Nixon greets Elvis Presley (9.00pm)

9.00 **The King Meets the President.** *(Teletext)* (s) (3043)
9.30 FILM: Elvis and the Colonel — The Untold Story (1992) starring Rob Youngblood as Elvis and Beau Bridges. *The story of the rise of Elvis to the throne of* King of rock 'n' roll and the part played by Colonel Tom Parker in shaping his professional career and *private life. Directed by William A. Graham (729376)*
11.20 FILM: King Creole (1958, b/w) starring Elvis Presley, Carolyn Jones, Dean Jagger, Walter Matthau and Vic Morrow. A drama about a street hustler who uses his rebellious nature to launch a successful musical career. Directed by Michael Curtiz. (Teletext) (65618227)
1.30am Viva Elvis. Jonathan Ross, in the United States, explores the reasons for the proliferation of Elvis impersonators (r). (Teletext) (2262135)
2.45-4.35 FILM: Girls! Girls! Girls! (1962) starring Elvis Presley, Laurel Goodwin and Stella Stevens. A musical about a tuna fisherman whose heartbreak at being forced to sell his boat is tempered by finding true love with a rich girl pretending to be poor. Directed by Norman Taurog (815086)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: **12.20pm-12.30 Anglia** News (7697192) **5.10-5.15 Anglia News** and Weather (6367869) **10.45-10.50 Anglia** News (352753) **12.35am** Hawmps! (704749) **2.35** Beyond Reality (8813390) **3.00** Sport AM (9472390) **3.55** The Time... the Place (9728357) **4.30** Yan Can Cook (20932) **5.00-5.30** Wanted Dead or Alive (93390)

CENTRAL
As London except: 5.10pm-5.15 Central News and Weather (6367869) **10.45-10.50** *Central News and Weather (352753)* ***4.55am*** Jobfinder (18843951) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2502777)

GRAMPIAN
As London except: 12.40pm Coronation Street (7065685) **1.10** Laugh with the Carry Ons (34420550) **1.40-2.30** Cindy Crawford: Stuntwomen World Tour (3060482) **5.00-5.15** ITN News, Sports Results; Weather (6314753) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here...? (3208) **10.45-10.50** Reflections (352753) **12.35am** The Hunters (2714154) **2.00** Sport AM (72116) **3.00** Amsterdamned (128222) **4.55-6.30** The Time... the Place (2875406)

GRANADA
As Scottish except: 9.55 Kidco (41973376) **11.55-12.30am** The Entertainers (7408579) **12.40pm** Home and Away (7065685) **1.10** Laugh with the Carry Ons (34420550) **1.40-2.30** Stuntmasters (3060482) **5.00-5.15** ITN News; Sports Results; Weather (6314753) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here...? (3208) **10.45** Poltergeist III (40753463) **12.35am** The Hunters (2714154) **2.00** Sport AM (72116) ***3.00*** *Amsterdamned (128222)* ***4.55-***5.30 The Time... the Place (2875406)

HTV WEST
As London except: 9.55-10.05 Cartoon Time (5672227)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 5.10pm-5.15 Meridian News and Weather (6367869) **10.45-10.50** Meridian News and Weather (352753) ***12.35am*** *Hawmps! (704749)* **2.35** Beyond Reality (8813390) **3.00** Sport AM (9472390) **3.55** The Time... *the Place* (9728357) **4.30** Yan Can Cook (20932) **5.00-5.30** Pressureen (93390)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 5.10pm-5.15 Tyne Tees News and Weather (6367869) **10.45-10.50** Tyne Tees News...and Weather (352753) **2.00am** Film: The Battle of the Bulge (Henry Fonda, Robert Shaw, Robert Ryan, Telly Savalas) (99272999) **4.50-5.30** Stuntmasters (6605357)

ULSTER
As London except: 9.55 Warner Brothers Cartoon (5672227) **12.00pm-12.30** Home and Away (31442) **12.40-1.10** Coronation Street (7065685) **1.40-2.30** Cindy Crawford: Stuntwomen World Tour (9157531) **5.10-5.15** UTV Live: Early Evening News

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 5.10pm-5.15 Westcountry News; Weather (6367869) **10.45-10.50** Westcountry News; Weather (352753)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 5.10-5.15 Calendar News (6367869) **10.45-10.50** Calendar *News and Weather (352753)* **2.00am** The Battle of the Bulge (99272999) **4.50-5.30** Stuntmasters (6605357)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (76821) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (25208) **9.30** Stand Still, Be Fit (8381005) **9.45** The Morning Line (987579) **10.15** Busters World (86731918) **12.00pm** Every Dog's Guide To Complete Home (6748869) **12.15** Slot Meithrin (289685) **12.45** Crawshaw Paints Acrylics Simplifying A Complex Scene (268956) **1.15** Channel 4 Racing From Cheltenham And Windsor (76943753) **3.40** Ricki Lake *(7214444) 4.30 Batman (24) 5.00 5 Pump -* Cellagal (8312395) **5.15** 5 Pump - lasau Y Llong (9867095) **5.30** Countdown (76) **6.00** Newyddion 8/ News (708376) **6.10** I Dir Drygioni (700550) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (4550) **7.30** Sgorio (53) **8.00** Stratocasters (133550) **8.45** Newyddion/news (902005) **9.00** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (3043) **9.30** Elvis And The Colonel - The Untold Story (729376) **11.20** King Creole (65618227) **1.30am** Viva Elvis (2262135) **2.45** Girls, Girls, Girls (815086)

NETWORK2
Starts: 9.25 Sarah and the Squirrel (47849519) **10.35** Black Arrow (44178024) **11.30** The Beatbox (39211444) *1.30* Film: Raising the Roof (82247668) **2.30** Bosco (12033802) **3.00** Den TV (25763444) **3.05** Dinobabies (35369173) **3.20** Happy Birthday (25767260) **3.30** Dinin (47422045) **3.45** The Den's Pet Vet (47427596) **4.00** Animated Adventures (23369802) **4.35** Pop Goes The *Den (63759294)* **4.55** The Joke Box (93454442) **5.20** Film: I Yabba-dabba Do! (43971442) **5.57** Cinnalinte Nuachta (59278463) **7.00** Coronation Street Remembers *Doris Speed (32670109) 7.30 Coronation* Street (12054395) **8.00** News (26375717) **8.30** Seanchai (41125014) **9.00** Cineclub (46907802) **11.40** Between The Devil And The Sea: Salman Rushdie (94683314) **12.25** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (67397024) **7.45** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (5481043) **8.25** Dennis (5561869) **8.40** Dynamo Duck (1094163) **8.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (9831032) **9.30** Card Sharks (94840) **10.00** Concentration (8765227) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (8030802) **10.30** Candid Camera (65840) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (37956) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (56192) **12.30pm** E Street (77276) **1.00** St Elsewhere (93111) **2.00** Lace I (91665) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (9455260) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (3924666) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (6937) **6.00** Gamesworld (3937) **6.30** Blockbusters (4289) **7.00** E Street (7666) **7.30** M*A*S*H (3173) **8.00** Adventures of Brisco County Jr (30666) **9.00** Civil Wars (10802) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (20289) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (128482) **11.45** Chances *(191005) 12.45am Barney Miller (22883)* **1.15-1.45** Night Court (29796)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (9034758) **9.30** Worldwide Report (8000685) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes *(1552802)* **11.00** News and Business (38192) **11.30** Year in Review — Business (99821) **1.30pm** CBS News (15647) **2.30** WTN Roving Report (80376) **3.30** The Book *Show (5395) 4.00 News and Business (4802)* **4.30** Year in Review — Africa (3314) **5.00** Live at Five (4579) **6.30** Year In Review — Sport (5531) **7.30** Year In Review — Business (4043) **8.00** News and Business (4956) **8.30** Year in Review — Africa (750376) **9.10** CBS 60 Minutes (390444) *11.30 CBS News (87463)* **12.30am** ABC News (16390) **1.30** Year in Review — Sport (99680) **2.30** WTN Roving Report (64883) **3.30** The Book Show (76628) **4.30** CBS News (26222) *5.30-6.00 ABC News (91616)*

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (2994802) **10.00 Give My Regards to Broad Street** (1984) (76444) **12.00 A Walton Thanksgiving Reunion** (1994) (30799) **2.00pm Radio Flyer** *(1992) (44869)* ***4.00 Octopussy*** (1983) (41690314) **6.10 Thunderball** (1965) (70233376) **8.15 It's Nothing Personal** (1992) (98547395) **10.00 Kickboxer** (1989) (930598) ***11.45 1492: Conquest of Paradise*** (1992) (61039918) **2.20 Noises Off!** (1992) (728086) **4.00-6.00 Donato and Daughter** (1993) (78628)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Fahrenheit 451 (1966) (20227) ***8.00 Raid on Entebbe*** *(1976) (56305463)* **10.25-12.00 Annie Hall** (1977) (457840)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Interlude (1957) (59111) **8.00 Sirga the Lion**: Live-action tale (73260) **10.00 Honey, I Blew Up the Kid** (1992) (77294) **12.00 Cop and a Half** (1992) (96111) **2.00pm Mom and Dad Save the World** (1993) (35111) **4.00 Sirga the Lion.** As 8am (2111) **6.00 Honey, I Blew Up the Kid**: As 10am (22647) **8.00 Cop and a Half** (1992): As noon (27192) **10.00 Body Snatchers** (1993) (99579) **11.30 The Prince of Tides** (1991) (29918686) **1.40am The Mambo Kings** (1992) (499661) **3.25-5.00 Pretty Princess** (65240311)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

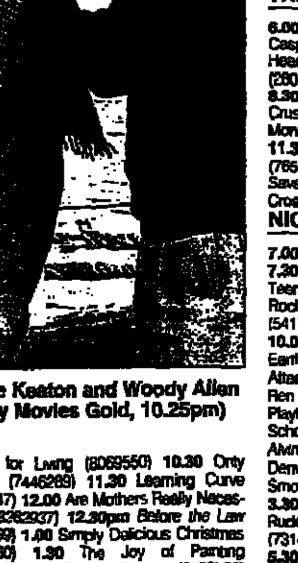
SKY SPORTS
7.30am The Big League (84005) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (58109) **10.00** WWF Mania (51550) **11.00** Cricket: Australia v England (887918) **1.30pm** WDC World Darts (1863840) **7.00** Ford Escort Monday Night Football, Live: Spurs v Arsenal (46381024) ***11.15*** *Soccer News (233314)* **11.30** Cricket. Live: Australia v England (5634550)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Rally Raid (57734) **8.00** Equestrianism (74821) **9.00** Ski Jumping (33937) **10.00** Live Weightlifting: Women's *World Championship (53918) 11.00 Rally* Raid (38734) **11.30** Formula One Review (45821) **1.30** Karting (46591) **2.30** Superbike (91260) **3.30** Nascar: Goody's 500 (93294) **4.30** Indycar (61869) **6.30** News (6685) **7.00** Nascar: Goody's 500 (58463) **9.00** Eurogoals (59227) **10.30** Boxing (48192) **11.30** Golf (38666) **12.30am** News (12338)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (2497173) **8.30** Peyton Place (2498444) **9.00** As the World Turns (9245869) **10.00** Guiding Light (4720260) **11.00-12.00** Another World (4738289)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Discover Your World (1386395) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (7945024) **1.00** Alaska (8646840) **1.30** Cooking in France (7944395) **2.00** Ski Perfect (4568647) **2.30** Round Trip: Sydney (3631869) **3.00** Discover Your World (4570482) **3.30** Mansion (3656314) **4.00** Travel Guide Review (3615821) **4.30** Kids Down Under (3611005) **5.00** Round Trip — Sydney (4582227) **5.30-6.00** *Cooking In France (3835685)*

TLC
9.00am The Joy of Painting (3242173) **9.30** Simply Delicious Christmas (4135753) **10.00** Life is for Living (8069550) **10.30** Only Human (7446289) **11.30** Learning Curve (8748647) **12.00** Are Mothers Really Necessary? *(3262937)* **12.30pm** *Before the Law* (4148869) **1.00** Simply Delicious Christmas (8489460) **1.30** The Joy of Painting (4136840) **2.00** Parents Talking (6420579) **2.30** Discovering Psychology (4865840) **3.00** Gardens Without Borders (6432314) **3.30-4.00** The Secret Life of Machines (4867685)



Diane Keaton and Woody Allen (Sky Movies Gold, 10.25pm)

UK GOLD
7.00am Blankety Blank (7948956) **7.30** Neighbours (7927463) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7881840) **8.30** EastEnders (7880111) **9.00** The Bill (7871463) **9.30** Flesh and Blood (2833685) *10.20* Juliet Bravo (2581918) **11.30** Blankety Blank (2703579) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7891227) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2247005) **1.00** EastEnders (7947227) **1.30** The Bill (2246376) **2.00** George and Mildred (8537519) **2.30** Rings on Their Fingers (7074289) **3.00** Knots Landing (2707395) **4.00** Dynasty (2786802) **5.00** Every Second Counts (3781734) **5.35** Top of the Pops: The 1970s (2661260) **5.55** Porridge (7053005) **6.30** EastEnders (7089598) **7.00** FILM: Carry On Behind (1975): Comedy with Kenneth Williams (3088482) **8.30** Sweeney Special — Regan (8364550) **10.00** The Bill (7892956) **10.30** Top of the Pops (6461753) **11.15** Ripping Yarns (2784032) *11.55 Dr Who. The Greatest* Show in the Galaxy (7372685) **12.25am** Rockliffe's Babies (1195777) **1.25** Squadron (6084970) **2.25** Shopping at Night

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Best of Drobee Time (38918) **7.00** Casper and Friends (4386531) **7.15** Head to Head (2792208) **7.30** Garfield and Friends (26043) **8.00** Super Mario Brothers (99260) **8.30** Bobby's World (98531) **9.00** Robinson Crusoe (83005) **10.30** Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (18395) **11.00** Eek the Cat (87024) **11.30** Beakman (88753) **12.00** Stunt Dawgs (76537) **12.30pm** Bots' Master (38647) **1.00** *Saved by the Bell (15579)* **1.30** *Swan's* Crossing (37918) **2.00-6.00** Sonic (300579)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Denver the last *Dinosaur* (41173) **7.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (60208) **8.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (84550) **8.30** Rocko's Modern Life (63821) **9.00** Rugrats (54173) **9.30** Clarissa Explains it All (92821) **10.00** Grimmy (32937) **10.30** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (83685) **11.00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (41208) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (42937) **12.00** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (74937) **12.30** Galaxy High School (58127) **1.00pm** Doug (40444) **1.30** *Alvin and the Chipmunks* (60228) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (7208) **2.30** Smoggies (7550) **3.00** Nick Faves (9043) **3.30** Dungeons and Dragons (9395) **4.00** Rude Dog and Dweeb (6802) **4.30** Rugrats (7314) **5.00** Clarissa *Explains* it all (1260) **5.30** MWF Secret World of Alex Mac (6686) **6.00** Doug (5579) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (8531)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm *The Global Family (7089111)* **4.30** Earthfile (7085395) **5.00** The Driven Man (8187078) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (2253666) **7.00** Next Step (7737637) **7.30** Future Quest (7086024) **8.00** Space Age (9068482) **9.00** Buccaneer — The Last British Bomber (9055918) **10.00** Compass (9058005) **11.00** Special Forces (2785173) **11.30-12.00** Those Who Dare (4865192)

BRAVO
12.00 *FILM: High Tide at Noon* (1957): A woman reminisces about life in a lobster-fishing community. With Betta St John (4983598) **2.00** The Avengers (4864463) **3.00** My Three Sons (2787032) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (7084802) **4.00** FILM The Beastmaster (1982): Marc Singer in a Tarzan-style adventure fantasy (7093314) **6.00** The Protectors (7033314) **6.30** Cannon (2141802) **7.30** The Invisible Man (7073550) **8.00** The Avengers (9052208) **9.00** The New Avengers (9042444) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Highlander (1986): *Christopher Lambert and* Sean Connery star as immortals battling through the ages (2791734)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (2920444) **7.00** Living Magazine (2923482) **8.00** OK! Talk Feelings (1563208) **8.15** Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga (1546531) **8.30** Women Mean Business (7144289) **9.00** Masterchef (4369289) **9.35** Now You See It (7653869) **10.00** Trivia *Trap (4106918)* **10.30** *The Susan Powter* Show (7157753) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3060111) **12.00** Through the Looking Glass (8396145) **12.35pm** Kilroy (2715024) **1.30** *On the House* (4881260) **2.00** Agony Hour (4107647) **3.00** Gladrags and Glamour Hour (7058918) **4.00** Infatuation (5164937) **4.30** Trivia Trap (10388579) **4.55** A Taste of Japan (2044918) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5144173) **6.00** The Susan Powter Show (5174314) **6.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (5165666) **7.00** Gladrags and Glamour Hour (9315799) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (7315519) **9.00** FILM: Prime Suspect (1982). A businessman is implicated in *the murder of a child (4165036)* **11.00** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7081482) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (4195802)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Danger Mouse (4378) **5.30** Motormouth (561598) **6.25** All Clued Up (763289) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (7840) **7.30** My Two Dads (1531) **8.00** Road To Avonlea (94802) **9.00** Moonlighting (14666) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (26096) **10.30** GP (19024) **11.00** Lou Grant (25866) **12.00** Rhoda (82809) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (63086) **1.00** Danger Mouse (36116) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (79319) **2.00** Moonlighting (10338) **3.00** Lou Grant (63203) **4.00** Rhoda (23777) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake

MTV
5.00am Awake on the Wildside (15067) **6.30** The Grind (98314) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (33598) **8.00** VJ Ingo (779685) **11.00** Soul (47591) **12.00** Unplugged (68802) **2.00pm** The Afternoon Mix (85598) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (8704579) **3.45** Cinematic (8792734) **4.00** News at Night (4487579) **4.15** 3 from 1 (4440802) **4.30** Dial MTV (2260) **5.00** Hit List UK (22598) **7.00** Plugged (98802) **9.00** The Real World 3 (76918) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (50869) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (729260) **10.15** Cinematic (757043) **10.30** News (814043) **10.45** 3 from 1 (819598) **11.00** The End? (64005) ***1.00am*** *Soul (92319)* **2.00** *The Grind* (34883) **2.30** Night Videos (157338)

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (4743111) **9.00** Café VH-1 (9164173) **12.00** The Bridge (2665227) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (4775463) **2.30** Heart and Soul (7688260) **3.30** Into the Music (4278647) **6.00** Prime Cuts (8610444) **7.00** VH-1 for You (4078685) **8.00** VH-1 Album Chart (4058821) **10.00** The Bridge (9241043) **11.30** VH-1 to 1 (8985314) **12.00** The Nightfly (2088390) **2.00am** Prime Cuts (5247845) **3.00** Album Chart (5468845) **5.00-7.00** Dawn Patrol (7714883)

CMT EUROPE
Country music from **6am** to **7pm**, including **6.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (25444) **7.00** Asian Morning (37463) **8.30** Buniyaad (25685) **9.00** Pakistani FILM: Aal Ka Daur (489550) *12.00 Ghar (44208)* ***1.00pm*** *Hindi FILM:* Raja Babu (393289) **4.00** Drama: Naureena (65802) **5.00** Cookery Programme (1802) **5.30** Tik Tik Tik (8208) **6.00** TVA and You (5579) **6.30** Serial Buniyaad (9531) **7.00** Serial: Baba Jaan and Sons (1024) **7.30** Des Pardes (8043) **8.00** News (7444) **8.30** New Serial: Mano Ya Na Mano (6579) **9.00** Hindi FILM Chalbaaz (400918) **12.00** Asian Morning (38681) **1.30-6.00am** Sight and Sound (9827116)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Make 'em Laugh
7.00pm The Long, Long Trailer (1954): Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz spend a chaotic honeymoon in a trailer (2566227) **8.45 Abbott and Costello in Hollywood** (1945) (94793666) **10.15 Hollywood Party** (1934): Jimmy Durante throws a party for an all-star cast including Laurel and Hardy and the Three Stooges (72425395) **11.35 A Touch of the Sun** (1956). A hotel porter inherits a fortune and buys the hotel. Starring Frankie Howerd (35559111) **1.10am Double Bunk** (1961): A newlywed couple live on an old houseboat (75637154) **3.00-5.00 The Long, Long Trailer** *(1954): As 7pm (37816939)*

CNN/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

Bombers strike at banker aiming to buy Polly Peck assets



Nadir: debt pressure

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

A BOMB has blasted the Nicosia bank owned by Mehmet Çevi, the Turkish Cypriot politician who is seeking to buy the entire assets in northern Cyprus of the collapsed Polly Peck International. Police defused a second bomb.

Chris Barlow, of Coopers & Lybrand, administrators of PPI, the lemons-to-electonics enterprise that collapsed in 1990 with debts of £1.3 billion, was outraged by news of the bombing of Everest Bankasi.

Mr Barlow said that the action, early on New Year's Eve, followed a series of anonymous telephone threats during the week to the administrators' lawyer in Nicosia, warning him to back off from the discussions over the sale to Mr Çevi of PPI's local assets. The book value of the assets is estimated at about £50 million.

The bomb damaged the frontage of the bank, but it is understood that there were no casualties. The police were unable to say who was responsible for the bombing.

Mr Barlow saw the bombing as escalation of violent tactics used to try to thwart the administrators' efforts to gain control of PPI's assets in northern Cyprus and Turkey. He said that it was a "strange coincidence" that the attack came shortly after news of discussions with Mr Çevi — highlighted in *The Times* last Friday — surfaced in the media in northern Cyprus.

An accountant working for Coopers on the PPI administration in Turkey was shot last year, and an employee was beaten up. The car of a lawyer working for the administrators in northern Cyprus, was set on fire. The administrators working in northern Cyprus are now protected by ex-SAS bodyguards.

According to Mr Barlow, the northern Cyprus government had to decide whether it wanted the rule of law to prevail or "mafiosi and gangster" elements.

Should Mr Çiva secure the PPI portfolio, which includes two luxury hotels, a fruit packing business and a packaging plant, his controversial plan is to install Asil Nadir, the fugitive founder of PPI, to run the companies, although Mr Nadir still faces charges in the UK of stealing £34 million.

Coopers & Lybrand tried, unsuccessfully, to hold a meeting with the northern Cyprus government last Friday to discuss the government's decision to allow Mr Nadir to run the luxury hotels owned by a PPI offshoot, Voyager Kibris, after the administrators had paid the outstanding ground rent to the tourism ministry.

The government's decision disappointed the administrators, who had seen the formal receipt of rent arrears as an important step towards the government's acknowledgement of the legal right of PPI's subsidiaries to gain control of their businesses from Mr Nadir.

The administrators have accused Mr Nadir, who, in 1993, jumped £3.5 million bail in Britain, of being involved in the two attacks on Coopers & Lybrand staff in Turkey. Mr Nadir has dismissed the allegations and has said that his bodyguards' role is to prevent him being kidnapped by the British authorities, who have no powers to have him extradited.

A source close to the Nicosia authorities said yesterday that the bombing of Everest may have been the work of former depositors. Mr Çevi took over Everest in 1993, after it went bankrupt. According to the source, reports that Mr Çevi is discussing a major acquisition may have prompted former depositors who lost money to implement a revenge attack.

Mr Nadir last week had to sell residential property in northern Cyprus, including his mother's house, to pay a £250,000 first instalment of his estimated £7 million debt to the government. Pressure on Mr Nadir from the government to settle his local debts has mounted, but his close ties with Rauf Dentaş, president of northern Cyprus, are believed to have helped him to strike deals with the government that allow him to continue running local PPI businesses.

SFO's future in peril over Guinness case

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

THE Serious Fraud Office's failure to make evidence concerning the TWH Licensed Dealers Tribunal available to the "Guinness Four" is expected to have widespread repercussions, conceivably affecting the SFO's independence, already under threat.

The decision by Michael Howard, Home Secretary, to refer the Guinness convictions to the Court of Appeal is widely seen as the last straw for the SFO, which, under the direction of Barbara Mills, was forced to abandon two out of four Guinness trials, which are estimated to have cost the taxpayer upwards of £27 million.

Rex Davie, a former Cabinet Office official, is shortly expected to complete his review of the report on the SFO carried out last year by John Graham, the Treasury official who effectively recommended an amalgam of the SFO with the Crown Prosecution Service's fraud investigation unit.

Mr Davie's report is due to be passed to Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney General, later this month. In the wake of a series of High Court disasters, including the Blue Arrow case, the Metropolitan Police and the City of London Police are reputed to be broadly supportive of Mr Graham's call for a major shake-up of the SFO. Speculation mounted over the weekend that Mr Davie's recommendations may well concur with Mr Graham's conclusions.

George Staple, director of the SFO, has emphasised that his department will strenuously oppose the Guinness appeals, which relate to the convictions of Ernest Saunders, Guinness's former chairman, the businessmen Gerald Ronson and Jack Lyons, and Anthony Parnes, a former stockbroker.

The SFO insists that the TWH findings were not relevant to the Guinness defendants.

This perspective is entirely at odds with the claims of lawyers acting for the Guinness Four and with the recent claim by Lord Spens, a defendant in the second Guinness trial, that if the TWH information had been made available, "none of the defendants in the first trial would have been convicted".

Findings of the 1988 TWH Tribunal, chaired by Lord Grantchester, QC, include the statement that "many leading banks, solicitors and stockbrokers at the time with which we are concerned did not appreciate that indemnity share transactions effected during an offer period in the shares of a company involved in the takeover were required to be disclosed by the [Takeover] Code."

Other findings relating to TWH share transactions in seven publicly quoted companies on a "no profit, no loss" basis include: "There is nothing intrinsically improper in the purchase and sale of shares in the market under an indemnity arrangement entered into between the dealer and a third party. In principle, there is little or no difference between such a transaction and a purchase in the name of a nominee."

The SFO describes the evidence as "unused material" that was "not regarded as relevant" at the time of the Guinness trial.

Further potential embarrassment for the Government looms with Saunders's separate appeal to the European Court of Human Rights. The European Commission on Human Rights has already found that the compulsory powers enjoyed by the DTI were "oppressive" and deprived Saunders of "a fair hearing." Should Saunders succeed in Strasbourg, this would open the way for a flurry of further appeals.

Far East tariff change attacked

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

CLAIMS by the Government that Britain stands to gain more than most from the world trade agreement, which came into force yesterday, contrasted with criticism that tariff changes will mean higher prices for many goods from the Far East.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, said the Uruguay round pact and the new World Trade Organisation (WTO) it creates represented the "best possible boost to economic recovery". He said gains from the agreement, estimated to add more than $330 billion to annual world income after ten years, would be felt immediately.

Along with removal of tariffs and alignment of trade rules under the pact, European Union ministers have agreed to remove the favourable trading status of a number of Asian economies. But PMS International, one of Britain's largest importers of toys and novelties, said it was forced to raise prices after it was told of the tariff changes on December 20.

Sir Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend and a Eurosceptic, said Brussels had delivered a "very nasty new year present".

The new system is intended to be more predictable than the old one and allow in imports without quota restriction. A DTI spokesman said: "People know what they will pay and the system will run for four years."

The WTO faces numerous obstacles, including lack of consensus on the membership of China. China announced a series of retaliatory measures at the weekend after America, which opposed its WTO membership, placed $2.8 billion worth of Chinese goods on a tentative list for punitive tariffs.



Comeback man: Gerald Ratner's hopes of a return to retailing have been postponed yet again. Mr Ratner, former head of the Ratners jewellery chain, has been a consultant to a consortium developing a a US-style factory outlet shopping centre at Tobacco Dock, east London. The development was scheduled to start trading before Christmas but, as yet, no shops have opened. The launch had already been delayed from last April and the project's failure to open for Christmas is a setback. Factory outlets are big business in the US and this type of shopping is expected to expand rapidly in the UK, with 11 centres due to open this year. Tobacco Dock has found it difficult to attract tenants but hopes to open later this year.

Lloyd's names face £1bn loss

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London's names, who have suffered losses of more than £7 billion in the space of four years, face further losses of £1 billion this summer before the insurance market returns to profit.

The loss relates to 1992's underwriting experience and compares with last summer's £2.01 billion loss, reflecting relatively few catastrophes with the exception of Hurricance Andrew which caused extensive damage in Florida.

The outcome for 1993 is expected to show a sharp improvement. Analysts are predicting a return to the black with profits estimated at £300 million-£800 million. Such profits relate only to those syndicates trading in 1992 and will not benefit thousands of names who have been forced to cease underwriting.

Forecasts for 1992 have deteriorated recently, partly reflecting the poor performance of the gilt-edged and other bond markets during the first half of 1994, which will affect investment returns.

Chatset, the independent Lloyd's analyst, expects Lloyd's to suffer a "pure year" loss of about £135 million for 1992. This compares with Oakwood Underwriting Agencies' estimate of something between £93 million profit and £392 million loss.

Both Chatset's and Oakwood's forecasts exclude any further losses in relation to 1991 and prior years. This embraces deficits incurred by syndicates that have not been able to close via reinsurance because their future liabilities are not quantifiable.

These losses totalled £1.4 billion in 1991 but are expected to be less for 1992. In addition, uncalled losses in respect of 1990 and 1991 are estimated at £2.4 billion — demands for which loom on the horizon.

UK job market 'one of freest in OECD'

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S labour market is now one of the most deregulated in the industrialised world, according to a confidential analysis by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Ministers will see the OECD report on the UK labour market as international recognition of their reform of one of the economy's most difficult areas.

However, Labour will seize on it as evidence that British employees now have the lowest protection of any workers in the major industrialised countries, and will attack its suggestion of the adoption in Britain of US-style workfare.

The OECD report, obtained by *The Times*, says that reforms since the early 1980s have had the effect of "arguably making the UK labour market one of the least regulated in Europe, if not the entire OECD area".

Policies for jobs, page 30

Pension funds show 4% loss

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

LAST year proved one of the worst for the British pension fund industry in almost two decades, with the average fund suffering a loss of 4 per cent of its worth.

According to W M Company, the investment performance consultant, the dismal 1994 performance contrasted with the excellent out-turn to 1993, but the return over a two-year period still averaged 11 per cent a year during a period when inflation has been averaging 2 per cent.

Last year heralded a strong performance from the British property market, with returns of 13 per cent, but bonds offered a negative return of 10 per cent, while equities returned 6 per cent.

Overseas markets failed to build on their sparkling performance in 1993, says W M Company, and showed an overall negative return of 2 per cent.

The exception was Japan, where investments managed to increase in value by 17 per cent. Other Pacific markets, however, reversed 1993 gains to show a 16 per cent fall.

Peter Warrington, a director of W M Company, said 1994 was only the second year of negative returns since measurement of funds began in 1975. In 1990, the worth of British pension funds fell by almost 11 per cent.

☐ The United Kingdom and Germany will top the European economic growth league in 1995, according to Roger Bootle and the economics unit at HSBC, which controls the Midland Bank. Growth in Europe and Japan is set to pick up, HSBC predicts, allowing the international recovery to gather pace.

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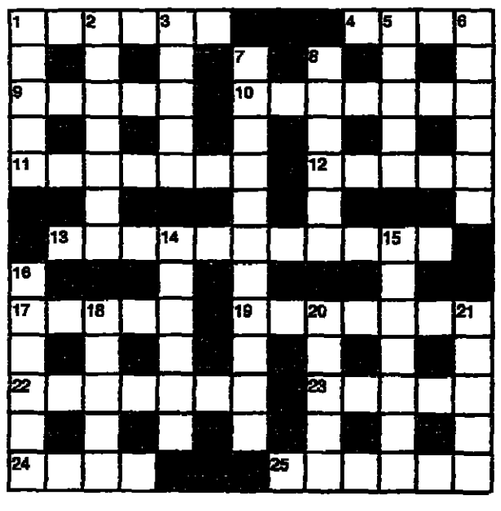
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD
No 358

ACROSS
1 Systematic plan: plot (6)
4 Twirl (4)
9 Uniform coat: loose sleeveless garment (5)
10 Take in air (7)
11 Obtain money by deception (7)
12 Regal (5)
13 Deserving opprobrium for fault (11)
17 Desert waterhole (5)
19 Labour painfully (7)
22 Regular payment for insurance (7)
23 Fairy-tale author brothers (5)
24 Irritate (4)
25 Well-lit: intelligent (6)

DOWN
1 Replete (5)
2 All one can hold: one difficult to manage (7)
3 Moslem pilgrimage city (5)
5 Glazier's paste (5)
6 Sewing implement: rivalry (6)
7 Cup Final hymn (5,4,2)
8 Panic (6)
14 One out of place (6)
15 Chapter, column title (7)
16 Vat; small coin (6)
18 Period; enchantment (5)
20 Rage (5)
21 Boundary (5)

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO NEW YEAR CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1 Hatches matches and dispatches 15 Rhenish 16 Jaw 17 Insipid 18 Oak tree 19 Woozy 20 Omniscience 21 Fortified 22 Grogram 24 Token 26 Instead 27 Omaha 28 Annoyance 31 Debutante 33 Salient 34 Angelus 36 Thesaurus 37 Tete-a-tete 40 Natural selection 42 Facileness 45 Telephoned 46 Few and far between 48 Unbridled 50 Uxoricide 51 English 53 Inciter 56 Contagent 57 Elemental 59 Large 60 Papyrus 61 Wader 63 Bonuses 65 Trivalent 66 Intentional 69 Mamba 70 Tsunami 71 To horse 72 Law 73 Insider 74 Spare the rod and spoil the child

DOWN: 1 Here we go again 2 Tiepolo 3 Hairy 4 Schoolmen 5 Adjunct 6 Cowes 7 Elision 8 Arson 9 Depressants 10 Indifferent 11 Protrudes 12 Take it or leave it 13 Hermitage 14 Steadfastness 23 Royal 25 Kedgeree 26 Interrogative 29 Night-club 30 Extreme 32 Beat the bounds 35 Sell off 38 Thimble 39 Exegetist 41 Repair the damage 43 Academe 44 Admitted 45 Trucial States 47 No holds barred 49 Decapitator 50 Untarnished 52 Green 54 Curricula 55 Replenish 58 Embellish 61 Wanness 62 Renewal 64 Samadhi 67 Turin 68 Igloo 69 Music

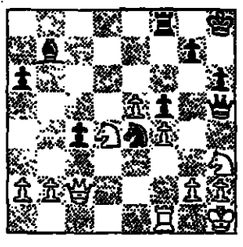
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Torres — Alekhine, Seville 1922. How did Alekhine, Black to play, finish with a brilliant coup?

Solution, page 18
Raymond Keene, page 5

The winners of the weekly competition published on Saturday, December 24 are: J F Allen, Stowmarket, Suffolk; I Pether, Epsom, Surrey; J W Richards, Thetford, Norfolk.



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

UROLAGNIA
a. A wind instrument
b. Pleasure from urination
c. A mineral water

VITRAIN
a. An area of the brain
b. A leather dog lead
c. A type of coal

TEEM
a. To drain water
b. Suffolk for the screech owl
c. To shriek

VELETA
a. A land mine
b. A bland cheese
c. A ballroom dance

Answers on page 18